

DATE: February 2, 1976

SUBJECT: SPAR/SKIN SPACER REMOVAL

SERIALS AFFECTED: AA5A-0001 thru AA5A-0015, AA5A-0018 thru AA5A-0027, AA5A-0029 thru AA5A-0035, AA5A-0039 thru AA5A-0042, AA5A-0044, AA5A-0046 thru AA5A-0050, AA5A-0052 thru AA5A-0054, AA5A-0056 thru AA5A-0064, AA5A-0066 thru AA5A-0069, AA5A-0071 thru AA5A-0078, AA5A-0080 thru AA5A-0085, AA5A-0087, AA5A-0089 thru AA5A-0095, AA5A-0098, AA5A-0099 and AA5A-0101 thru AA5A-0107.

AA5B-0001 thru AA5B-0238.

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: Within the next 50 hours of operation or at the next scheduled inspection, whichever occurs first.

GENERAL

The fuel tanks on the above listed aircraft serials affected were assembled with eight (8) Royalite spacers located between the wing spar and skin in each fuel tank. As the result of a report indicating that the spacers may become dislodged after an extended time in service, they have been deleted on current production aircraft. Likewise, the spacers must be removed from those aircraft listed in this Bulletin in the time of compliance indicated.

The procedure below provides instructions to remove the spacers and specifies the inspection that must be performed, if any of the spacers have become dislodged.

REMOVAL PROCEDURE

W A R N I N G

REMOVAL OF THE SPACERS INVOLVES OPENING OF THE FUEL TANKS.  
OBSERVE ALL AIRPORT AND OTHER APPLICABLE FIRE REGULATIONS  
CONCERNING DEFUELING AND FUEL SYSTEM MAINTENANCE.

1. Defuel both fuel tanks and gain access to the spacers by removing the four (4) fuel tank access covers on the lower surface of each wing.

N O T E

WHEN REMOVING SPACERS AND REMAINING ADHESIVE, EXERCISE CARE  
TO PREVENT NICK OR SCRATCH DAMAGE ON WING SPAR AND SKIN.

2. Insert a fiber, wood or plastic tool between the wing skin and the Royalite spacer and peel off all spacers installed above and below spar (eight spacers per fuel tank). If extreme difficulty is encountered in removing one or more spacers, consult the Customer Service Department, 318 Bishop Road, Cleveland, Ohio; 44143, Tel (216) 449-2200.

3. If any of the spacers were not in position prior to removal, remove and inspect fuel tank finger screens, electric pump filter and carburetor inlet screen. The presence of adhesive contamination on any of the screens or filter, necessitates fuel system flushing until clean.
4. Remove loose adhesive flash from skin area where spacers were installed using a fiber, wood or plastic tool and wipe with a clean cloth dampened with Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK), acetone or similar solvent. Dry with a clean cloth before solvent evaporates.
5. Vacuum tanks to remove all loose adhesive, dirt, etc., from tank area.
6. Seal over any remaining adhesive where spacers were installed with PRC 1422 Fuel Tank Sealant, or approved equivalent per MIL-S-8802, provided in SK-112C.

## N O T E

THE SPACE BETWEEN THE UPPER AND LOWER WING SKIN AND THE WING SPAR MUST NOT BE SEALED WITH SEALANT. THIS MUST BE VERIFIED BY INSERTING A 1/8 INCH THICK (APPROXIMATELY) WOODEN OR FIBER TOOL (TONGUE DEPRESSOR) BETWEEN THE SKIN AND THE SPAR AND MOVING IT SPANWISE BETWEEN RIBS. CONTACT BETWEEN SKIN AND SPAR IS PERMISSIBLE.

7. Install access covers with 3C-200 Fuel Tank Cover Sealant, or approved equivalent per MIL-S-8784, provided in SK-112C.
8. Observe sealant curing time and pressure test requirements indicated in SK-112C, before refueling aircraft.

PARTS INFORMATION

Integral Fuel Tank Sealing Kit, part number SK-112C, price \$29.42 (E) each, one required per aircraft, is available from your authorized Grumman American Aviation Corporation Dealer.

CREDIT INFORMATION

A full parts and labor allowance of four (4) hours at the dealer's prevailing shop rate will be available for each affected aircraft.

All work must be performed or authorized by a Grumman American Aviation Dealer. A completed Warranty Claim Form No. GAA-740 must be submitted to the factory before July 31, 1976 for credit allowance.

Immediately on completion of Service Bulletin, a Service Reply Card is to be completed and returned, noting compliance with the requirements of this Bulletin.

Prices subject to change without notice.

GRUMMAN AMERICAN AVIATION CORPORATION

REB:jmz

Distribution (02)