



# SERVICE LETTER

No. 778

Piper Aircraft Corporation

Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

June 14, 1976

M

Subject:

Elevator Butt Rib Refinement

Models Affected:

PA-31P Pressurized Navajo

Serial Numbers Affected:

31P-1 to 31P-7630005 Inclusive

Compliance Time:

At owner/operators discretion, recommended at a regularly scheduled inspection interval (periodic, annual or Programmed Inspection event, whichever applies).

Purpose:

Reports from the field describing Elevator Butt Rib cracks - primarily on high time aircraft - indicate a need to refine the Elevator Butt Rib installation.

This Service Release announces the availability of refined (Cheyenne-type) Elevator Butt Ribs, designed to provide extended component service life and, in conjunction with a proper inspection program, will assure continued structural integrity of the rib.

Instructions:

1. Remove elevators (Reference: Current PA-31P Pressurized Navajo service manual, structures section).
2. Remove existing Elevator Butt Ribs, part number 45933-00 and discard.  
NOTE: Remove elevator identification plate (metal plate stamped with elevator part number, serial number, etc.) and stamp with letter "S" - which denotes the elevator has been modified. Retain plate for reinstallation on new elevator butt ribs.
3. Install new Elevator Butt Ribs, Piper part number 54755-02 (two each per aircraft);  
NOTE: Be sure to reinstall elevator identification plates (reference step 2, above.).
4. Check elevator function, balance, and rig per PA-31P service manual.
5. Make appropriate log book entry.

Material Required:

Two (2) each per aircraft Elevator Butt Ribs, Piper part number 54755-02 @ suggested unit list price \$54.45.

5520

(over)

Availability of Parts:

Your Piper Field Service Facility.

Effectivity Date:

This Service Release is effective upon receipt.

Summary:

Please contact your Piper Field Service Facility to obtain this product refinement. For planning purposes, installation time is approximately sixteen (16) man-hours per aircraft, and be reduced by coordinating this installation with a scheduled inspection/maintenance interval.