



Piper Aircraft Corporation
Vero Beach, Florida, U.S.A.

SERVICE No. 866 BULLETIN

* **PIPER CONSIDERS** *
* **COMPLIANCE MANDATORY** *

Date June 19, 1987 S

SUBJECT:

Back Up Landing Gear Extender
Removal

MODELS AFFECTED:

PA-28R-180 Arrow
PA-28R-200 Arrow/Arrow II
PA-28R-201 Arrow III
PA-28R-201T Turbo Arrow III
PA-28RT-201 Arrow IV
PA-28RT-201T Turbo Arrow IV

PA-32R-300 Lance
PA-32RT-300 Lance II
PA-32RT-300T Turbo Lance II
PA-32R-301 Saratoga S.P.

PA-32R-301T Turbo Saratoga S.P.

SERIAL NUMBERS AFFECTED:

28R-30004 through 28R-7130013
28R-35001 through 28R-7635545
28R-7737001 through 28R-7837317
28R-7703001 through 28R-7803373
28R-7918001 through 28R-8218026
28R-7931001 through 28R-8631005,
2831001 and 2831002
32R-7680001 through 32R-7880068
32R-7885001 through 32R-7985105
32R-7787001 through 32R-7987126
32R-8013001 through 32R-8613005,
3213001 and 3213002
32R-8029001 through 32R-8029110,
32R-8029121 through 32R-8629006,
and 3229001 through 3229003

COMPLIANCE TIME: Within the next one hundred (100) hours of operation or at the next scheduled maintenance event, whichever occurs first.

PURPOSE: The automatic gear extension system installed in the above listed aircraft was originally hailed as a significant improvement for retractable gear aircraft. Over the years, however, it has been criticized by so called "experts" seeking to place some portion of the blame for an accident on the aircraft designers. The primary criticism of the system has been that it is susceptible to misuse during an emergency. The automatic gear extension system, like any aircraft system, can have adverse consequences if it is misused. Gear extension increases drag and decreases glide ratio. If mishandled, this could mean failure to clear an obstacle, or failure to reach an intended landing area.

In view of the controversy concerning the benefit of having such a system, Piper Aircraft Corporation has concluded that the system should be removed from all aircraft. Replacement parts for the automatic gear extension system will no longer be available.

This Service Bulletin announces the availability of a kit which, when installed, will disable the automatic gear extension system. Until compliance, Piper Aircraft Corporation recommends that the system be "locked out" during all phases of flight and that a placard be installed indicating that the automatic gear extension system has been disabled.

(over)
ATA: 3236

APPROVAL: The Modification to the affected aircraft described in this Publication has been approved by the F.A.A.

INSTRUCTIONS: All instructions necessary to accomplish this modification are contained in the Back Up Landing Gear Extender Removal Kits, Piper Part Number 765-303 for the PA-28R/28RT Series and Piper Part Number 765-199 for the PA-32R/32RT Series.

MATERIAL REQUIRED: One (1) each Back Up Landing Gear Extender Removal Kit, Piper Part Number 765-303 for PA-28R/28RT or 765-199 for PA-32R/32RT Series, per aircraft.

AVAILABILITY OF PARTS: Your Piper Field Service Facility.

EFFECTIVITY DATE: This Service Bulletin is effective upon receipt.

SUMMARY: Any applicable Factory Participation will remain in effect for a period of time not to exceed 180 days from the date of this Service Bulletin.

Please contact your Factory Authorized Piper Field Service Facility to make arrangements for compliance with this Service Bulletin in accordance with the Compliance Time indicated, and to obtain information concerning any applicable Factory Participation.

NOTE: For a period of 180 days from the date of this Service Bulletin, the Back Up Landing Gear Extender Removal Kits will be offered at a special list price of \$132.00 each for Piper Part Number 765-303 and \$127.00 each for Piper Part Number 765-199.

NOTE: If you are no longer in possession of this aircraft, please forward this information to the present owner/operator and notify the Factory of address/ownership corrections. Changes should include aircraft model, serial number, current owner's name and address

Corrections/Changes should be directed to:

Piper Aircraft Corporation
Attn: Product Support
P.O. Box 1328
Vero Beach, FL 32961-1328