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AIRPLANE HANDLING, SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE

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SECTION 8

AIRPLANE HANDLING, SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE

8.1 GENERAL

This section provides general guidelines relating to the handling, servicing and maintenance of the Archer II.

Every owner should stay in close contact with his Piper dealer or distributor and Authorized Piper Service Center to obtain the latest information pertaining to his aircraft and to avail himself of the Piper Aircraft Service Back-up.

Piper Aircraft Corporation takes a continuing interest in having the owner get the most efficient use from his aircraft and keeping it in the best mechanical condition. Consequently, Piper Aircraft from time to time issues Service Bulletins, Service Letters and Service Spares Letters relating to the aircraft.

Service Bulletins are of special importance and should be complied with promptly. These are sent to the latest registered owners, distributors and dealers. Depending on the nature of the bulletin, material and labor allowances may apply, and will be addressed in the body of the Bulletin.

Service Letters deal with product improvements and service hints pertaining to the aircraft. They are sent to dealers, distributors and occasionally (at the factory's discretion) to latest registered owners, so they can properly service the aircraft and keep it up to date with the latest changes. Owners should give careful attention to the Service Letter information.

Service Spares Letters offer improved parts, kits and optional equipment which were not available originally and which may be of interest to the owner.

If an owner is not having his aircraft serviced by an Authorized Piper Service Center, he should periodically check with a Piper dealer or distributor to find out the latest information to keep his aircraft up to date.

Piper Aircraft Corporation has a Subscription Service for the Service Bulletins, Service Letters and Service Spares Letters. This service is offered to interested persons such as owners, pilots and mechanics at a nominal fee, and may be obtained through Piper dealers and distributors.

A service manual, parts catalog, and revisions to both, are available from your Piper dealer or distributor. Any correspondence regarding the airplane should include the airplane model and serial number to insure proper response.

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8.3 AIRPLANE INSPECTION PERIODS

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) occasionally publishes Airworthiness Directives (ADs) that apply to specific groups of aircraft. They are mandatory changes and are to be complied with within a time limit set by the FAA. When an AD is issued, it is sent by the FAA to the latest registered owner of the affected aircraft and also to subscribers of their service. The owner should periodically check with his Piper dealer or A & P mechanic to see whether he has the latest issued AD against his aircraft.

The Owner Service Agreement which the owner receives upon delivery of the aircraft should be kept in the aircraft at all times. This identifies him to authorized Piper dealers and entitles the owner to receive service in accordance with the regular service agreement terms. This agreement also entitles the transient owner full warranty by any Piper dealer in the world.

One hundred hour inspections are required by law if the aircraft is used commercially. Otherwise this inspection is left to the discretion of the owner. This inspection is a complete check of the aircraft and its systems, and should be accomplished by a Piper Authorized Service Center or by a qualified aircraft and power plant mechanic who owns or works for a reputable repair shop. The inspection is listed, in detail, in the inspection report of the appropriate Service Manual.

An annual inspection is required once a year to keep the Airworthiness Certificate in effect. It is the same as a 100-hour inspection except that it must be signed by an Inspection Authorized (IA) mechanic or a General Aviation District Office (GADO) representative. This inspection is required whether the aircraft is operated commercially or for pleasure.

A Progressive Maintenance program is approved by the FAA and is available to the owner. It involves routine and detailed inspections at 50-hour intervals. The purpose of the program is to allow maximum utilization of the aircraft, to reduce maintenance inspection cost and to maintain a maximum standard of continuous airworthiness. Complete details are available from Piper dealers.

A spectographic analysis of the oil is available from several sources. This system, if used intelligently, provides a good check of the internal condition of the engine. For this system to be accurate, oil samples must be sent in at regular intervals, and induction air filters must be cleaned or changed regularly.

8.5 PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

The holder of a Pilot Certificate issued under FAR Part 61 may perform certain preventive maintenance described in FAR Part 43. This maintenance may be performed only on an aircraft which the pilot owns or operates and which is not used to carry persons or property for hire, except as provided in applicable FAR's. Although such maintenance is allowed by law, each individual should make a self-analysis as to whether he has the ability to perform the work.

All other maintenance required on the airplane should be accomplished by appropriately licensed personnel.

If maintenance is accomplished, an entry must be made in the appropriate logbook. The entry should contain:

1. The date the work was accomplished.
2. Description of the work.
3. Number of hours on the aircraft.
4. The certificate number of pilot performing the work.
5. Signature of the individual doing the work.

8.7 AIRPLANE ALTERATIONS

If the owner desires to have his aircraft modified, he must obtain FAA approval for the alteration. Major alterations accomplished in accordance with Advisory Circular 43.13-2, when performed by an A & P mechanic, may be approved by the local FAA office. Major alterations to the basic airframe or systems not covered by AC 43.13-2 require a Supplemental Type Certificate.

The owner or pilot is required to ascertain that the following Aircraft Papers are in order and in the aircraft.

- (a) To be displayed in the aircraft at all times:
 - (1) Aircraft Airworthiness Certificate Form FAA-8100-2.
 - (2) Aircraft Registration Certificate Form FAA-8050-3.
 - (3) Aircraft Radio Station License if transmitters are installed.

- (b) To be carried in the aircraft at all times:
 - (1) Pilot's Operating Handbook.
 - (2) Weight and Balance data plus a copy of the latest Repair and Alteration Form FAA-337, if applicable.
 - (3) Aircraft equipment list.

Although the aircraft and engine logbooks are not required to be in the aircraft, they should be made available upon request. Logbooks should be complete and up to date. Good records will reduce maintenance cost by giving the mechanic information about what has or has not been accomplished.

8.9 GROUND HANDLING

(a) Towing

The airplane may be moved on the ground by the use of the nose wheel steering bar that is stowed below the forward ledge of the baggage compartment or by power equipment that will not damage or excessively strain the nose gear steering assembly. Towing lugs are incorporated as part of the nose gear fork.

CAUTION

When towing with power equipment, do not turn the nose gear beyond its steering radius in either direction, as this will result in damage to the nose gear and steering mechanism.

CAUTION

Do not tow the airplane when the controls are secured.

In the event towing lines are necessary, ropes should be attached to both main gear struts as high up on the tubes as possible. Lines should be long enough to clear the nose and/or tail by not less than fifteen feet, and a qualified person should ride in the pilot's seat to maintain control by use of the brakes.

(b) Taxiing

Before attempting to taxi the airplane, ground personnel should be instructed and approved by a qualified person authorized by the owner. Engine starting and shut-down procedures as well as taxi techniques should be covered. When it is ascertained that the propeller back blast and taxi areas are clear, power should be applied to start the taxi roll, and the following checks should be performed:

- (1) Taxi a few feet forward and apply the brakes to determine their effectiveness.
- (2) While taxiing, make slight turns to ascertain the effectiveness of the steering.
- (3) Observe wing clearance when taxiing near buildings or other stationary objects. If possible, station an observer outside the airplane.
- (4) When taxiing over uneven ground, avoid holes and ruts.
- (5) Do not operate the engine at high RPM when running up or taxiing over ground containing loose stones, gravel, or any loose material that may cause damage to the propeller blades.

(c) Parking

When parking the airplane, be sure that it is sufficiently protected from adverse weather conditions and that it presents no danger to other aircraft. When parking the airplane for any length of time or overnight, it is suggested that it be moored securely.

- (1) To park the airplane, head it into the wind if possible.
- (2) Set the parking brake by pulling back on the brake lever and depressing the knob on the handle. To release the parking brake, pull back on the handle until the catch disengages; then allow the handle to swing forward.

CAUTION

Care should be taken when setting brakes that are overheated or during cold weather when accumulated moisture may freeze a brake.

- (3) Aileron and stabilator controls should be secured with the front seat belt and chocks used to properly block the wheels.

(d) Mooring

The airplane should be moored for immovability, security and protection. The following procedures should be used for the proper mooring of the airplane:

- (1) Head the airplane into the wind if possible.
- (2) Retract the flaps.
- (3) Immobilize the ailerons and stabilator by looping the seat belt through the control wheel and pulling it snug.
- (4) Block the wheels.
- (5) Secure tie-down ropes to the wing tie-down rings and to the tail skid at approximately 45 degree angles to the ground. When using rope of non-synthetic material, leave sufficient slack to avoid damage to the airplane should the ropes contract.

CAUTION

Use bowline knots, square knots or locked slip knots. Do not use plain slip knots.

NOTE

Additional preparations for high winds include using tie-down ropes from the landing gear forks and securing the rudder.

- (6) Install a pitot head cover if available. Be sure to remove the pitot head cover before flight.
- (7) Cabin and baggage doors should be locked when the airplane is unattended.

8.11 ENGINE AIR FILTER

(a) Removing Engine Air Filter

- (1) Remove the lower cowl.
- (2) Remove the wing nuts securing the filter. Remove the filter.

(b) Cleaning Engine Air Filter

The induction air filter must be cleaned at least once every 50 hours, and more often, even daily, when operating in dusty conditions. Extra filters are inexpensive, and a spare should be kept on hand for use as a rapid replacement.

To clean the filter:

- (1) Tap the filter gently to remove dirt particles, being careful not to damage the filter. DO NOT wash the filter in any liquid. DO NOT attempt to blow out dirt with compressed air.
- (2) If the filter is excessively dirty or shows any damage, replace it immediately.
- (3) Wipe the filter housing with a clean cloth and install the filter. The usable life of the filter should be restricted to one year or 500 hours, whichever comes first.

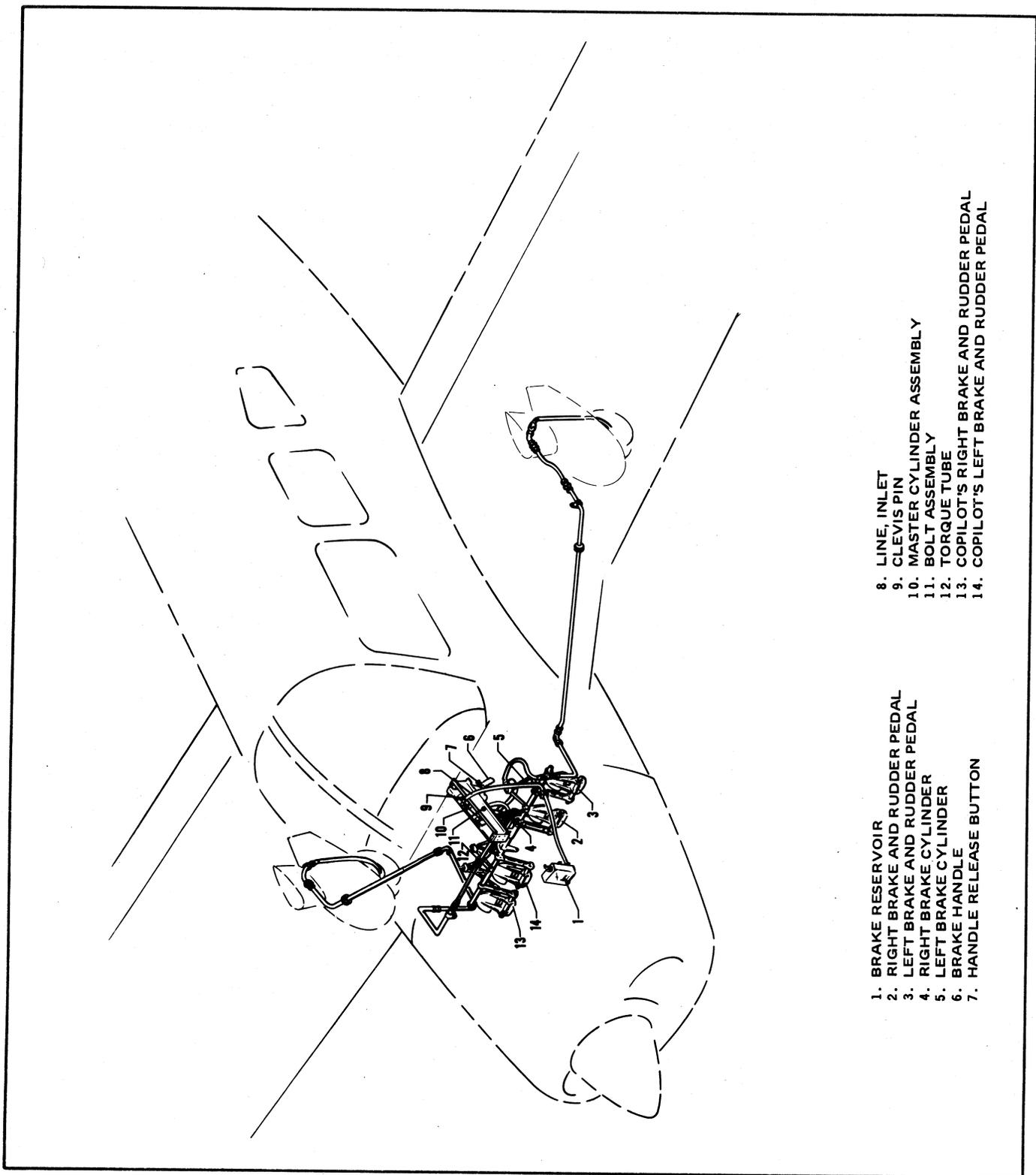
(c) Installation Of Engine Air Filter

After cleaning or when replacing the filter, install the filter in the reverse order of removal.

8.13 BRAKE SERVICE

The brake system is filled with MIL-H-5606 (petroleum base) hydraulic brake fluid. The fluid level should be checked periodically or at every 50 hour inspection and replenished when necessary. The brake reservoir is located on the fire wall in the engine compartment. If the entire system must be refilled, fill with fluid under pressure from the brake end of the system. This will eliminate air from the system.

No adjustment of the brake clearances is necessary. If after extended service brake blocks become excessively worn, they should be replaced with new segments.



- 1. BRAKE RESERVOIR
- 2. RIGHT BRAKE AND RUDDER PEDAL
- 3. LEFT BRAKE AND RUDDER PEDAL
- 4. RIGHT BRAKE CYLINDER
- 5. LEFT BRAKE CYLINDER
- 6. BRAKE HANDLE
- 7. HANDLE RELEASE BUTTON
- 8. LINE, INLET
- 9. CLEVIS PIN
- 10. MASTER CYLINDER ASSEMBLY
- 11. BOLT ASSEMBLY
- 12. TORQUE TUBE
- 13. COPILOT'S RIGHT BRAKE AND RUDDER PEDAL
- 14. COPILOT'S LEFT BRAKE AND RUDDER PEDAL

BRAKE SYSTEM

Figure 8-1

8.15 LANDING GEAR SERVICE

The three landing gears use Cleveland Aircraft Products 6.00 x 6, four-ply rating, type III tires and tubes. (Refer to paragraph 8.23.)

Wheels are removed by taking off the hub cap, cotter pin, axle nut, and the two bolts holding the brake segment in place. Mark tire and wheel for reinstallation; then dismount by deflating the tire, removing the three through-bolts from the wheel and separating the wheel halves.

Landing gear oleos on the Cherokee Archer II should be serviced according to the instructions on the units. The main oleos should be extended under normal static load until $4.50 \pm .25$ inches of oleo piston tube is exposed, and the nose gear should show $3.25 \pm .25$ inches. Should the strut exposure be below that required, it should be determined whether air or oil is required by first raising the airplane on jacks. Depress the valve core to allow air to escape from the strut housing chamber. Remove the filler plug and slowly raise the strut to full compression. If the strut has sufficient fluid, it will be visible up to the bottom of the filler plug hole and will then require only proper inflation.

Should fluid be below the bottom of the filler plug hole, oil should be added. Replace the plug with valve core removed; attach a clear plastic hose to the valve stem of the filler plug and submerge the other end in a container of hydraulic fluid. Fully compress and extend the strut several times, thus drawing fluid from the container and expelling air from the strut chamber. To allow fluid to enter the bottom chamber of the main gear strut housing, the torque link assembly must be disconnected to let the strut be extended a minimum of 10 inches (the nose gear torque links need not be disconnected). Do not allow the strut to extend more than 12 inches. When air bubbles cease to flow through the hose, compress the strut fully and again check fluid level. Reinstall the valve core and filler plug, and the main gear torque links, if disconnected.

With fluid in the strut housing at the correct level, attach a strut pump to the air valve and with the airplane on the ground, inflate the oleo strut to the correct height.

In jacking the aircraft for landing gear or other service, two hydraulic jacks and a tail stand should be used. At least 250 pounds of ballast should be placed on the base of the tail stand before the airplane is jacked up. The hydraulic jacks should be placed under the jack points on the bottom of the wing and the airplane jacked up until the tail skid is at the right height to attach the tail stand. After the tail stand is attached and the ballast added, jacking may be continued until the airplane is at the height desired.

The steering arms from the rudder pedals to the nose wheel are adjusted at the nose wheel by turning the threaded rod end bearings in or out. Adjustment is normally accomplished at the forward end of the rods and should be done in such a way that the nose wheel is in line with the fore and aft axis of the plane when the rudder pedals and rudder are centered. Alignment of the nose wheel can be checked by pushing the airplane back and forth with the rudder centered to determine that the plane follows a perfectly straight line. The turning arc of the nose wheel is $30.0^\circ \pm 2^\circ$ in either direction and is limited by stops on the bottom of the forging.

The rudder pedal arm stops should be carefully adjusted so that the pedal arms contact the stops just after the rudder hits its stops. This guarantees that the rudder will be allowed to move through its full travel.

8.17 PROPELLER SERVICE

The spinner and backing plate should be frequently cleaned and inspected for cracks. Before each flight the propeller should be inspected for nicks, scratches, and corrosion. If found, they should be repaired as soon as possible by a rated mechanic, since a nick or scratch causes an area of increased stress which can lead to serious cracks or the loss of a propeller tip. The back face of the blades should be painted when necessary with flat black paint to retard glare. To prevent corrosion, the surface should be cleaned and waxed periodically.

8.19 OIL REQUIREMENTS

The oil capacity of the engine is 8 quarts and the minimum safe quantity is 2 quarts. It is recommended that the oil filter element be changed every 50 hours or sooner under unfavorable conditions. Engine oil is normally changed with the filter. However, if the full flow (cartridge type) oil filter is used and changed every 50 hours of operation, the intervals between oil changes may be increased as much as 100 percent. The following grades are recommended for the specified temperatures:

Average Ambient Air Temperature For Starting	Single Viscosity Grade	Multi-Viscosity Grades
Above 60°F	SAE 50	SAE 40 or SAE 50
30° to 90°F	SAE 40	SAE 40
0° to 70°F	SAE 30	SAE 40 or 20W-30
Below 10°F	SAE 20	SAE 20W-30

8.21 FUEL SYSTEM

(a) Servicing Fuel System

Refer to the PA-28 Cherokee Service Manual and Periodic Inspection Report for fuel system servicing and inspection.

(b) Fuel Requirements (AVGAS ONLY)

Aviation grade fuel with a minimum octane of 100/130 is specified for use in this airplane. Since the use of lower grades can cause serious damage in a short period of time, the engine warranty is invalidated by the use of lower octanes. Refer to the latest issue of Lycoming Service Instruction No. 1070 for alternate fuels and additional information.

A summary of the current grades as well as the previous fuel designations is shown in the following chart:

FUEL GRADE COMPARISON CHART

Previous Commercial Fuel Grades (ASTM-D910)			Current Commercial Fuel Grades (ASTM-D910-75)			Current Military Fuel Grades (MIL-G-5572E) Amendment No. 3		
Grade	Color	Max. TEL ml/U.S. gal.	Grade	Color	Max. TEL ml/U.S. gal.	Grade	Color	Max. TEL ml/U.S. gal.
80/87	red	0.5	80	red	0.5	80/87	red	0.5
91/98	blue	2.0	*100LL	blue	2.0	none	none	none
100/130	green	3.0	100	green	**3.0	100/130	green	**3.0
115/145	purple	4.6	none	none	none	115/145	purple	4.6

* - Grade 100LL fuel in some overseas countries is currently colored green and designated as "100L."

** - Commercial fuel grade 100 and grade 100/130 (both of which are colored green) having TEL content of up to 4 ml/U.S. gallon are approved for use in all engines certificated for use with grade 100/130 fuel.

The operation of the aircraft is approved with an anti-icing additive in the fuel. When an anti-icing additive is used it must meet the specification MIL-1-27686, must be uniformly blended with the fuel while refueling, must not exceed .15% by volume of the refueled quantity, and to ensure its effectiveness should be blended at not less than .10% by volume. One and one half liquid ozs. per ten gallon of fuel would fall within this range. A blender supplied by the additive manufacturer should be used. Except for the information contained in this section, the manufacturer's mixing or blending instructions should be carefully followed.

CAUTIONS

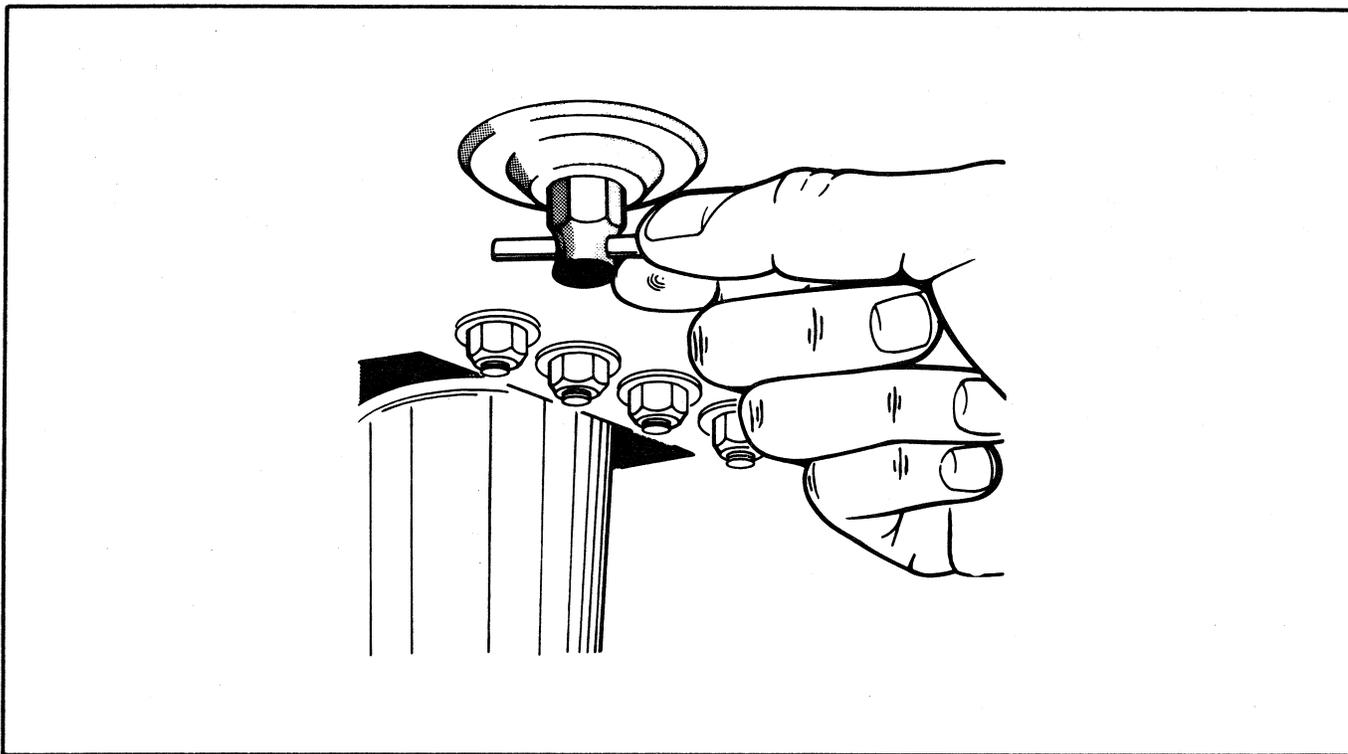
Assure that the additive is directed into the flowing fuel stream. The additive flow should start after and stop before the fuel flow. Do not permit the concentrated additive to come in contact with the aircraft painted surfaces or the interior surfaces of the fuel tanks.

Some fuels have anti-icing additives preblended in the fuel at the refinery, so no further blending should be performed.

(c) Filling Fuel Tanks

Observe all required precautions for handling gasoline. Fuel is stored in two twenty-five gallon (24 gal. usable) tanks.

There is approximately 17 gallons in the fuel tank when fuel level is even with bottom of filler neck indicator.



FUEL DRAIN

Figure 8-3

(d) Draining Fuel Strainer, Sumps and Lines

The fuel system sumps and strainer should be drained daily prior to the first flight and after refueling to avoid the accumulation of contaminants such as water or sediment. Each fuel tank is equipped with an individual quick drain located at the lower inboard rear corner of the tank. The fuel strainer is equipped with a quick drain located on the front lower corner of the firewall. Each of the fuel tank sumps should be drained first. Then the fuel strainer should be drained twice, once with the fuel selector valve on each tank. Each time fuel is drained, sufficient fuel should be allowed to flow to ensure removal of contaminants. This fuel should be collected in a suitable container, examined for contaminants, and then discarded.

CAUTION

When draining any amount of fuel, care should be taken to ensure that no fire hazard exists before starting the engine.

Each quick drain should be checked after closing it to make sure it has closed completely and is not leaking.

(e) Draining Fuel System

The bulk of the fuel may be drained from the system by opening the valve at the inboard end of each fuel tank. Push up on the arms of the drain valve and turn counterclockwise to hold the drain open. The remaining fuel in the system may be drained through the filter bowl. Any individual tank may be drained by closing the selector valve and then draining the desired tank.

8.23 TIRE INFLATION

For maximum service from the tires, keep them inflated to the proper pressures - 18 psi for the nose gear and 24 psi for the main gear. All wheels and tires are balanced before original installation, and the relationship of tire, tube and wheel should be maintained upon reinstallation. Unbalanced wheels can cause extreme vibration in the landing gear; therefore, in the installation of new components, it may be necessary to rebalance the wheels with the tires mounted. When checking tire pressure, examine the tires for wear, cuts, bruises, and slippage.

8.25 BATTERY SERVICE

Access to the 12-volt battery is through an access panel at the right rear side of the baggage compartment. The battery box has a plastic tube which is normally closed off with a cap and which should be opened occasionally to drain off any accumulation of liquid. The battery should be checked for proper fluid level. DO NOT fill the battery above the baffle plates. DO NOT fill the battery with acid - use water only. A hydrometer check will determine the percent of charge in the battery.

If the battery is not up to charge, recharge starting at a 4 amp rate and finishing with a 2 amp rate. Quick charges are not recommended.

8.27 CLEANING

(a) Cleaning Engine Compartment

Before cleaning the engine compartment, place a strip of tape on the magneto vents to prevent any solvent from entering these units.

- (1) Place a large pan under the engine to catch waste.
- (2) With the engine cowling removed, spray or brush the engine with solvent or a mixture of solvent and degreaser. In order to remove especially heavy dirt and grease deposits, it may be necessary to brush areas that were sprayed.

CAUTION

Do not spray solvent into the alternator, vacuum pump, starter, or air intakes.

- (3) Allow the solvent to remain on the engine from five to ten minutes. Then rinse the engine clean with additional solvent and allow it to dry.

(e) Draining Fuel System

The bulk of the fuel may be drained from the system by opening the valve at the inboard end of each fuel tank. Push up on the arms of the drain valve and turn counterclockwise to hold the drain open. The remaining fuel in the system may be drained through the filter bowl. Any individual tank may be drained by closing the selector valve and then draining the desired tank.

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CAUTION

Do not spray solvent into the alternator, vacuum pump, starter, or air intakes.

- (3) Allow the solvent to remain on the engine from five to ten minutes. Then rinse the engine clean with additional solvent and allow it to dry.

- (4) After cleaning plastic surfaces, apply a thin coat of hard polishing wax. Rub lightly with a soft cloth. Do not use a circular motion.
- (5) A severe scratch or mar in plastic can be removed by rubbing out the scratch with jeweler's rouge. Smooth both sides and apply wax.

(e) Cleaning Headliner, Side Panels and Seats

- (1) Clean headliner, side panels, and seats with a stiff bristle brush, and vacuum where necessary.
- (2) Soiled upholstery, except leather, may be cleaned with a good upholstery cleaner suitable for the material. Carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions. Avoid soaking or harsh rubbing.

CAUTION

Solvent cleaners require adequate ventilation.

- (3) Leather should be cleaned with saddle soap or a mild hand soap and water.

(f) Cleaning Carpets

To clean carpets, first remove loose dirt with a whisk broom or vacuum. For soiled spots and stubborn stains use a nonflammable dry cleaning fluid. Floor carpets may be removed and cleaned like any household carpet.

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