SERVICE INFORMATION LETTER

SERVICE LETTER NO. 0018

Date: May 5, 1970

Subject: Inspection of 28-11222 Stabilizer Attach. Tube

Model: F-28A

Effectivity: All Serial Numbers

Compliance: As noted

There have been two cases reported of loss of the left side of the stabilizer in flight as a result of failure of the stabilizer attachment tube P/N 28-11222. While failure of the tube is not indicated for normal operation of the aircraft it is possible for surface cracks of the surface hardened tube to occur from ground handling loads if the stabilizer is used to pull the tail down or maneuver the aircraft on its ground handling wheels.

It is now recommended that inspection of the 28-11222 Attachment Tube, be included in the 100 hr. inspection. This is accomplished by removing the stabilizer assemblies (P/N 28-20100) from the tube by removing the two AN3-20A bolts on each side. Then by removing the AN3-17A bolt (inside the tailcone) which secures the attach, tube to the 28-11221 fitting the tube can be removed. Inspect carefully in the area of the hole for the AN3-17A bolt for any evidence of a crack beginning at the hole and propagating radially around the tube. Magnaflux or Zyglo inspection is desirable. If no crack is found the part may be reinstalled.

It is recommended that ground personnel be alerted to the danger of applying ground handling loads to the stabilizer.

If for any reason the stabilizer attach, tube shows any indication of being bent from heavy ground handling loads or as a result of being bumped it should be replaced.