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*Customer Services*

# SERVICE LETTER

No. 594

Piper Aircraft Corporation

Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

October 8, 1971

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Subject: Inspection of Flap Track and Rudder Tip Rib Assemblies

Models Affected: PA-31 and PA-31-300 Navajo

Serial Numbers Affected: Reference Purpose Nos. I and II, below.

Compliance Time: At the next 100 hour or annual inspection, whichever occurs first.

Purpose:

I. PA-31, Serial Nos. 31-1 to 31-172 incl.  
Product condition information indicates that the outboard flap track assemblies on the above referenced aircraft are susceptible to cracks appearing along the inside angle of the flap track bracket. A change was made in production to the flap track assembly effective on serial numbers 31-173 and up.

This Service Letter contains instructions for inspecting the flap track assemblies on aircraft serial numbers 31-1 to 31-172 incl. to detect possible cracks. Attached sketch "A" illustrates the area to be inspected and contains inspection and material replacement (if required) instructions.

II. PA-31 and PA-31-300, Serial Nos. 31-1 to 31-460 incl.  
A recent product serviceability report described the appearance of cracks along the inside angle of the rudder tip rib (supporting the rudder balance weight) and the underside of the rudder tip support channel assembly. This Service Letter provides instructions to inspect this area for possible cracks. Attached sketch "B" contains inspection illustrations and instructions, with material replacement (if required) recommendations.

Instructions: Contained on attached sketches "A" and "B."

Material Required: Reference Purpose No. I; one (1) each (per aircraft) Outboard Flap Track Assembly Piper part number 43764-00 (Left) and/or 43764-01 (Right), if inspection requires material replacement.

(over)

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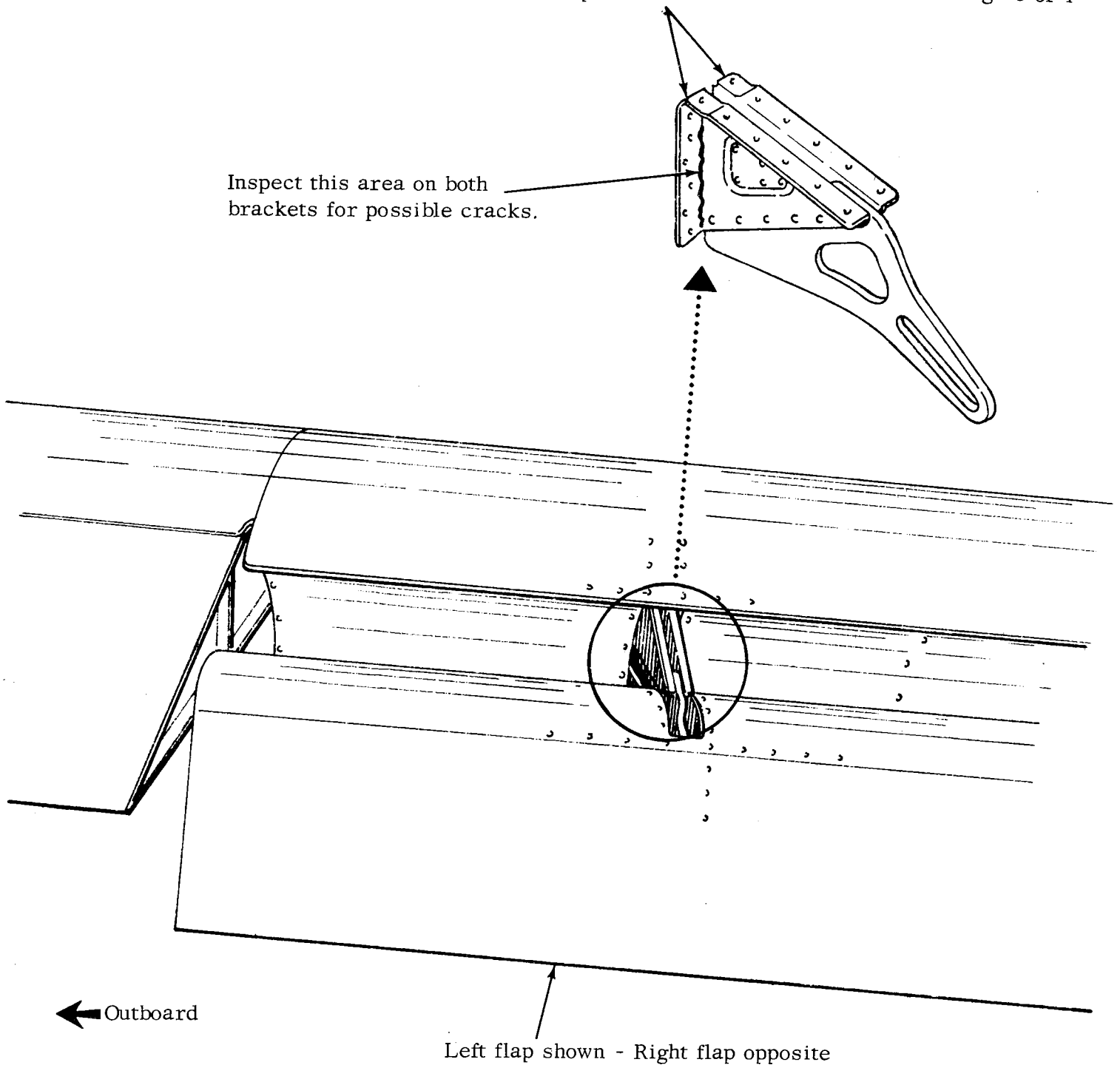
Material Required: (Continued)

Reference Purpose No. II; one (1) each (per aircraft)  
Rudder Tip Rib Assembly Piper part number 40044-00  
and/or Rudder Tip Support Channel Assembly Piper part  
number 40045-00, if inspection requires material  
replacement.

Availability of Parts:

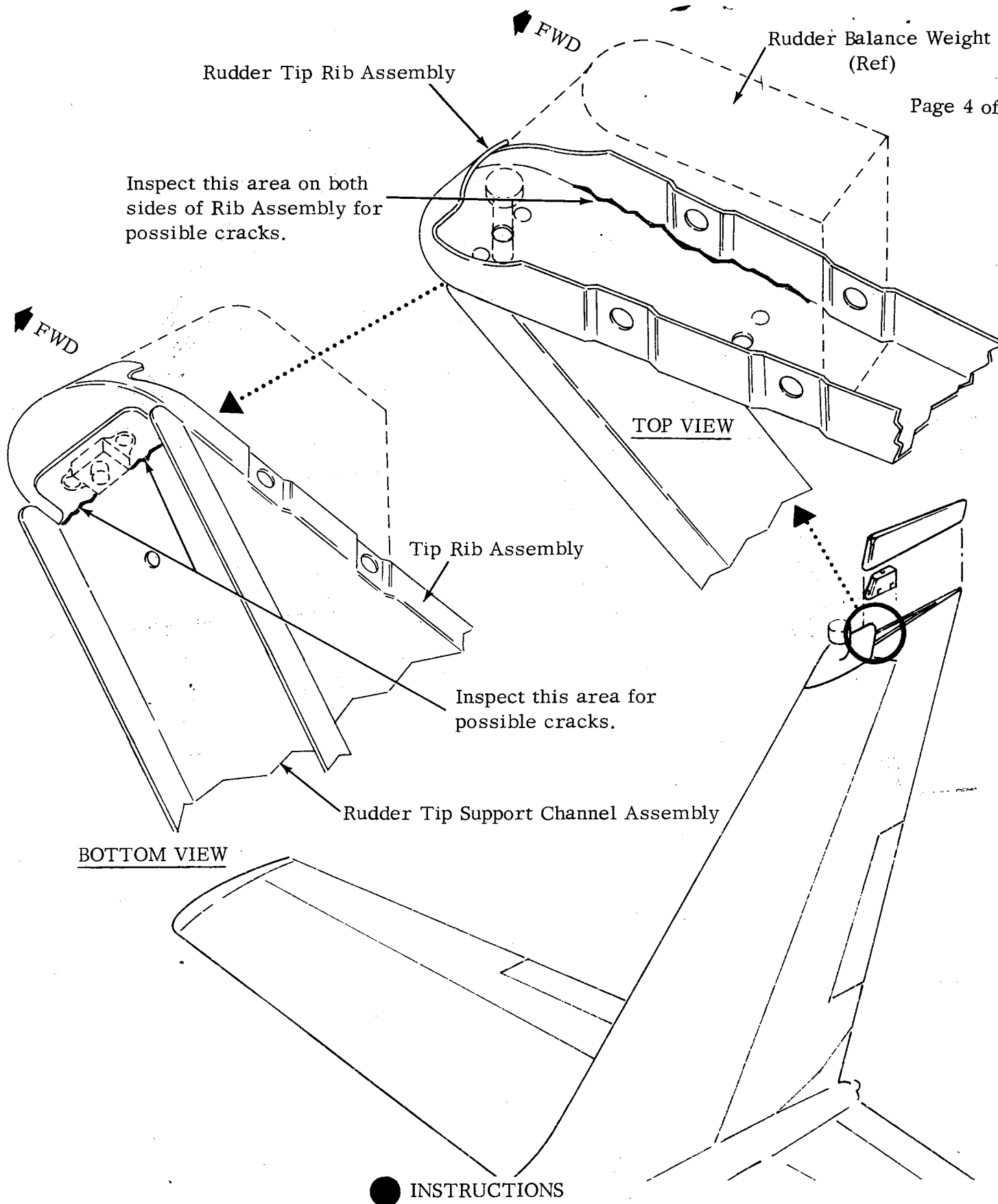
Your Piper Dealer.

Inspect this area on both brackets for possible cracks.



● INSTRUCTIONS

1. Lower the flaps and inspect the outboard flap track brackets for possible cracks.
2. If cracks are found, replace with new reinforced Flap Track Assembly, P/N 43764-00 for left wing or P/N 43764-01 for right wing.



1. Remove rudder tip and balance weight from rudder and inspect rib for possible cracks.
2. If cracks are found, replace with new reinforced Rib Assembly, Part No. 40044-00.
3. If Rib Assembly must be replaced, also inspect underside of Rudder Tip Support Channel Assembly for possible cracks. If cracks are found, replace with new Channel Assembly, Part No. 40045-00

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**SKETCH "B"**