



GRUMMAN  
MODEL  
G-73  
MALLARD

Customer  
Bulletin  
Number 90

July 24, 1964

INSPECTION OF MALLARD WINGS -  
BLADDER TYPE FUEL CELLS

Mallard Customer Bulletin No. 89 advised owners of Mallards equipped with the integral type fuel tanks to inspect for possible corrosion of the lower wing skin in the tank areas. It has come to the attention of the Grumman Company that corrosion can also occur in this skin area on Mallards equipped with the removable bladder type fuel cells.

All owners of Mallards having these fuel cells are advised to inspect, as soon as possible, the space in the wing center section between the bottom flooring supporting the fuel cells and the external skin. This space, about an inch and a half in height, contains important structural members running spanwise in the wing and serious corrosion can occur in these members and adjacent skin and box beam areas without revealing itself externally or resulting in fuel leakage.

This inspection is best accomplished by removing each of the bladder cells, then drilling out the rivets fastening the cell supporting floor plates and removing those floor plates. This exposes the whole wing structure to complete and unobstructed view so that cleaning and minor repairs can be easily made. If serious structural corrosion is found it may be necessary to remove the wing center section from the hull and detach the bottom skin in order that proper repairs or replacement of parts can be accomplished. This procedure would be similar to that described in Customer Bulletin No. 89.

This inspection and repair work has been done on Mallard airplanes at Aero Trades, Inc., Ronkonkoma, New York, under the technical assistance of the Grumman Company. The Company will be glad to furnish this assistance at nominal cost to any qualified agency contemplating this work.