



RIGGING ADVISORY CIRCULAR

Issue Date: 01 July 1995

RAC No. 313 Rev. B

SUBJECT: SEA-POCKET REMOVAL

STATUS: | RECOMMENDED

IDENTIFICATION: Canopy, 26 foot diameter, conical found in Navy NB-5, NB-6 and NB-8 parachute assemblies.

BACKGROUND: Some 26' Navy conical military surplus canopies are fitted with sea-pockets on the periphery to collapse the parachute canopy after a high wind landing in water.

A 26' Navy conical canopy was involved in a student fatality. It would appear a sea-pocket caught on a capewell fitting as the canopy was deploying from the students chest reserve container, causing a horse-shoe malfunction.

| These canopies are now common in emergency backpack parachutes used by aircrew. In this application there is a risk of the sea-pockets entangling with the user during parachute deployment.

APF POLICY: | Chest reserve and emergency back parachutes which have a Navy conical canopy fitted with sea-pockets should have the sea-pockets removed. This work shall be undertaken by a Parachute Rigger.

COMPLIANCE DATE: 1 October 1987

AUTHORITY: APF Director Safety

DISTRIBUTION: All APF Packers
All NZPF Parachute Technicians
Gliding Federation of Australia