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SAFETY INFORMATION

The item below was taken from the November issue of Parachutist Magazine. It is advised that parachutists with either Pioneer or GQ Security reserves should check their reserves.

Still More Mesh Problems

Western Conference Director Gary Douris recently told PARACHUTIST that he had inspected another Security reserve with severely weakened fabric adjacent to the mesh-covered panels.

The problem is similar to the one which caused Pioneer Parachute Company in December, 1986 to ground about 140 of its reserves which had been manufactured around 1982. In nearly all cases, fabric in panels adjacent to the mesh (which is used to cover steering modifications) had been seriously weakened, apparently by prolonged contact with improperly finished mesh.

For a while, the peculiarity seemed limited to Pioneer reserves. In June, however, PARACHUTIST reported a Washington DC area jumper had discovered a similar problem with his Security reserve. Douris said that three Security reserves, all manufactured in 1982, have so far been discovered to have the flaw.

Pioneer, which has offered to buy back any of its defective reserves, may be reached at (203) 644-1581. GQ Security, however, ceased operations in this country several years ago.

The Parachute Industry Association is studying the problem

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JOINT NATIONAL COACH &
SAFETY OFFICER

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