



✓ HQ-610C

AC NO: 91-28

DATE: 12/23/69

ADVISORY CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT: UNEXPECTED OPENING OF CABIN DOORS

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1. **PURPOSE.** This advisory circular outlines the importance of assuring that cabin doors are properly closed prior to takeoff.
 2. **BACKGROUND.** During an investigation of a recent accident, it was determined that the primary cause of the accident was the fact that the pilot aborted the takeoff at the moment of rotation because the cabin door opened creating a loud popping sound. Records indicate that other accidents have been attributed to this type occurrence.
 3. **ACTION.**
 - a. Due to the surprise effect of an unexpected cabin door opening and the accompanying loud noise, it is normal to expect that a failure of a major aircraft component has occurred. This is further strengthened by the fact that, in some aircraft, such an occurrence may create control problems or impose structural limitations for which the aircraft was not designed.
 - b. Due to the potential hazard of an unexpected cabin door opening, it is highly recommended that flight instructors place considerable emphasis on advising their students of the importance of assuring that doors are properly latched and that hinges, handles, locks and related components are in place and properly functioning. Because of the possibility of adverse control effects or structural stresses, it is strongly recommended that in-flight demonstrations be avoided. In lieu of this, it is suggested that all pilots adhere to the foregoing and that flight instructors stress to their students that the checking of cabin doors be made a part of their preflight check. It is further recommended that flight and ground schools include this very important safety matter in their training curriculums.

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