

Budget Door Lock Cylinder Solution



Figure 1

After a nice extended weekend trip in my B55 Baron to Port Aransas, TX (KRAS), I returned to my aircraft and unlocked the cabin door. Upon pulling the latch outward the lock cylinder popped out onto the wing (Figure 1) and I heard the distinct sound of metal parts falling into the door! After a few moments of processing what had just happened, I reasoned that the door latching mechanism was not in any way dependent upon the lock cylinder and its attaching parts. After the minor head scratching delay, the departure and flight back to Denton, TX (KDTO) home base was uneventful.

The following weekend I set about to fish out the retaining screw and locking cam (Item #36 in Figure 2). You'll note that the Baron part catalog extract does not list a PN for the cam retaining screw. However, a later search of Bonanza part catalogs shows the cam retaining screw as PN: 35-420015. After about an hour of fishing with a number of different size magnets on flexible shafts probing the nether regions of the door, only the cam was retrieved. OK, no problem, off to the hardware store to find a screw and things will be back to good as new. After visiting several hardware store nut and bolt bins, no joy on finding the proper threaded screw. This was starting to

be quite the dilemma, until I thought to check the door lock aisle for the possibility that I could match the cylinder and with that possibly find the screw that would fit the Beech cylinder.

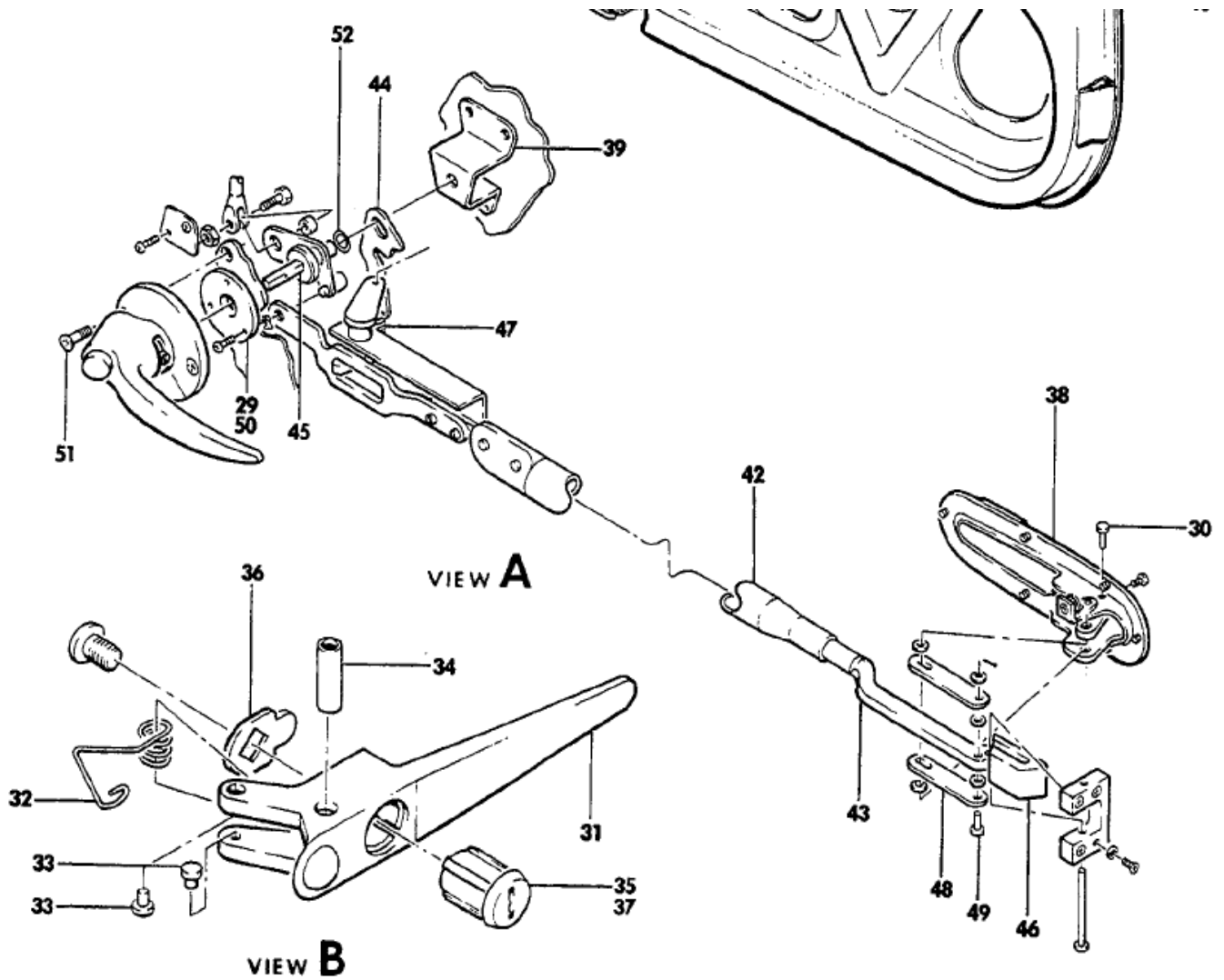


Figure 2

**Defender
Security**

U-9941

GABINET

For 5/16" Thick Panels
Para panel de 8 mm de espesor
Pour les panneau d'une épaisseur
de 8 mm



Cabinet & Drawer Lock
Pestillo de seguridad - Armario y cajón
Loquet de sécurité -
Armoire et tiroir

Aftermarket
Cylinder
U-9941



Original
Beech
Cylinder

Figure 3

At Home Depot I was able to find PN: U-9941 (Figure 3), which appeared to be a very close match to the original Beech cylinder. At \$4.59, less than the cost of shipping anything with a 35-XXXXX part number, I took it back to my hangar to see what minor surgery I could perform to put my Humpty Dumpty lock cylinder back together again.

As it turned out, the screw for the U-9941 did not fit the original lock cylinder so now the only solution was to put the U-9941 cylinder into service. After some minor grinding of the U-9941 supplied cam with a cut off air tool and a Dremel to replicate the original cam profile the new cylinder was functioning just as originally designed. The bonus was that I happened to pick up the key number that matched my existing key (Figure 4)! Talk about being amazed. The parts catalog for my B55 list three door lock cylinder PNs: 35-590070-15, -33, and -43. Bonanza door lock cylinder PNs are listed as: 35-590070-3 and 35-590099-5.

While I was performing the lock cylinder surgery, I noticed that the rubber door seal PN: 35-400404 had long since withered away to nothing. Fortunately I had an anti-chafe kit from Gee Bee, which included the door seal. After removing all the screws surrounding the door handle, it was no minor effort to wiggle the new seal into place to line up the screw holes with the perfectly punched Gee Bee seal.

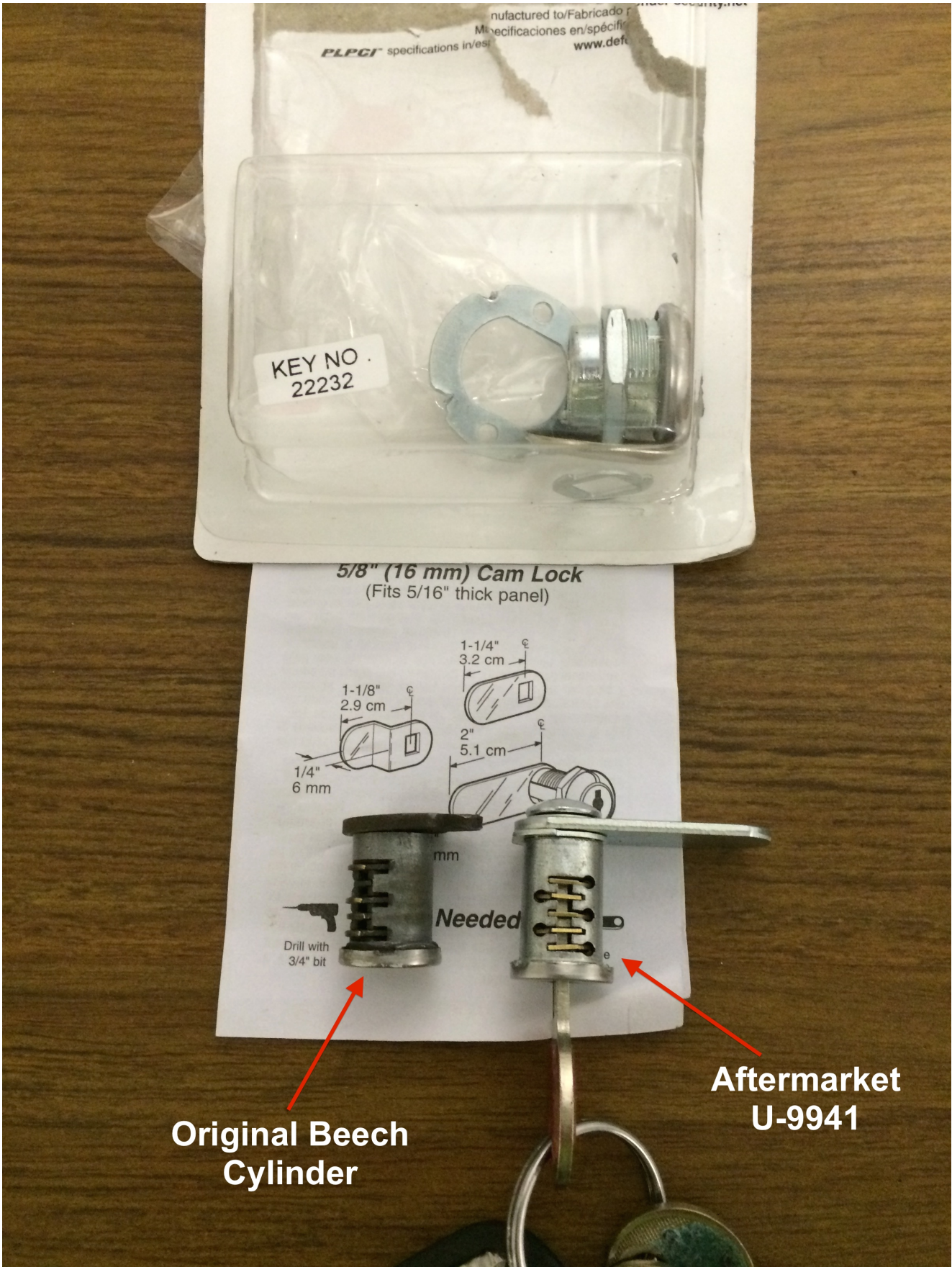


Figure 4

Should your aging door lock cylinder have a Humpty Dumpty moment, you may be able to use this info to get your lock back to quick functionality.

Happy Beechcraft Skies!