

CIRCULATE TO:  
SERVICE MANAGER   
PARTS MANAGER   
MECHANICS   
"Place in a Service  
Bulletin Binder"

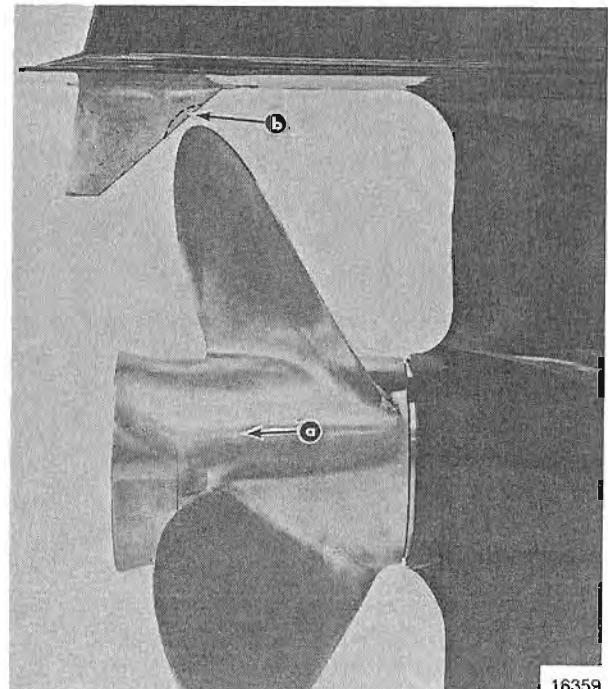
## PROPELLER INTERFERENCE WITH TRIM TAB ON MERCUISER I STERN DRIVES

Whenever installing a Black Max propeller on a MerCruiser I Stern Drive, be sure to check that sufficient clearance exists between propeller and trim tab. This is especially important when using a 17" pitch Black Max stainless steel propeller (48-79794A4), as it has the least amount of clearance of all Black Max propellers.

To check for adequate clearance, pull propeller rearward while checking clearance between trim tab and each propeller blade. (Figure 1) A minimum of .100" (3/32" or 2.54mm) clearance should exist. If clearance is insufficient, check for the following:

- That short trim tab (31640A1) is being used. Use of long trim tab (34127A1) will cause interference.
- That forward thrust hub (77987) is being used. Use of forward thrust hub (56292A1 or A2) will cause propeller interference.
- That spline washer is engaged with splines on propeller shaft. Failure to mate splines will prevent propeller nut from drawing propeller into proper position on shaft.
- That propeller nut is torqued to 55 lbs. ft. (74.6 N.m) minimum.

If none of the preceding are the cause for interference, the trim tab **MUST BE** modified to provide sufficient clearance. Remove stock from trim tab with a file or a grinder, at location shown in Figure 1. Do not remove any more stock than absolutely necessary.



- a - Pull Propeller Rearward
- b - Remove Material from This Area Of Trim Tab  
If Clearance Is Less Than .100" (3/32" or 2.54mm)

**Figure 1. Checking Propeller to Trim Tab  
Clearance**