

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken



Göte Marcusson 2 March 2009

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken
- Draken development process from a flight testing perspective
- Draken Flight characteristics and Handling qualities
- Flight test procedures and the how the test engineer interacts with the test pilot
- Cooper-Harper rating, what it is and how does it work, ever used on 35?
- Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

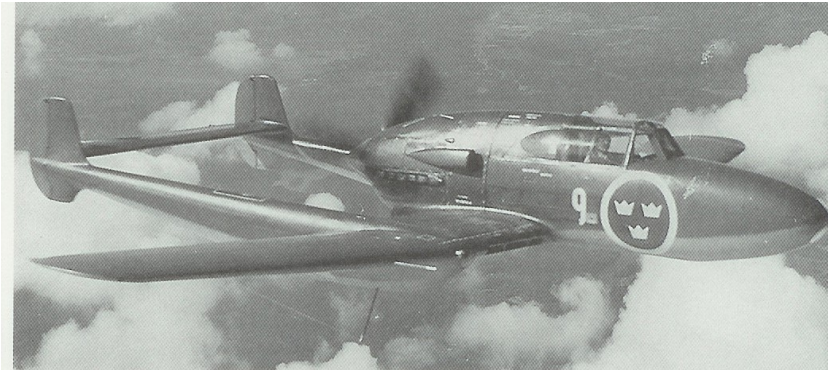
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- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**
- **Draken Flight characteristics and Handling qualities**
- **Flight test procedures and the how the test engineer interacts with the test pilot**
- **Cooper-Harper rating, what it is and how does it work, ever used on 35?**
- **Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics**

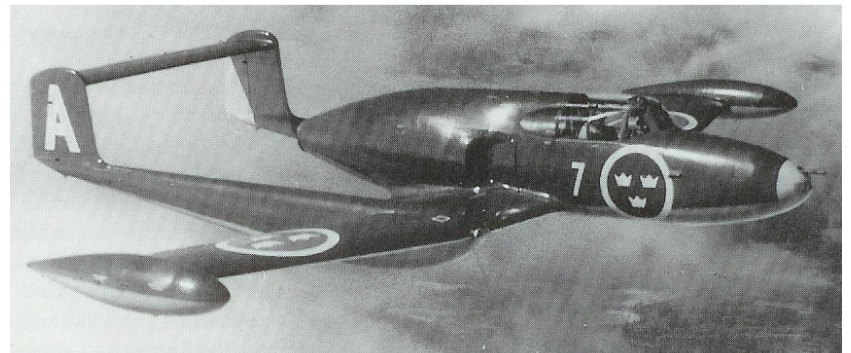
# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken

a) Aircraft 21



**J21A**  
Fighter aircraft  
Piston engined  
Maiden Flight  
30 July 1943



**J21R**  
Strike aircraft  
Jet engined  
Maiden Flight  
?? March 1947



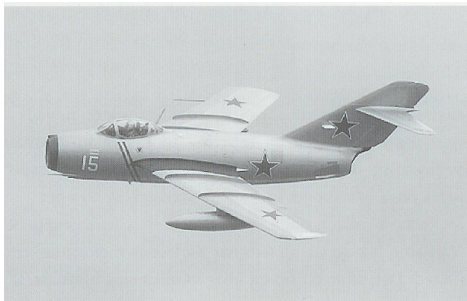
# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken

- b) Aircraft 29 Tunnan (Fighter aircraft)  
Maiden Flight 1.th September 1948



**Mig 15**



**F86 Sabre**



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken

- b) Aircraft 29 Tunnan (Fighter aircraft)



Techology wing demonstrator Aircraft 29 - Saab 201

1/2 Scale wing. Wing sweep 25°

Maiden Flight 29 August 1946

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

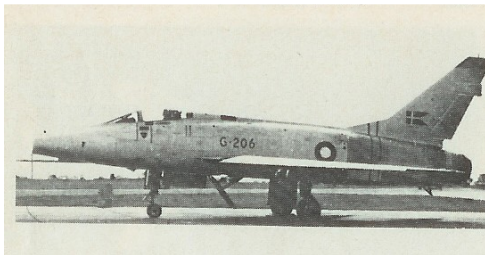
- **Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken**

- c) **Aircraft 32 Lansen (Strike aircraft)**

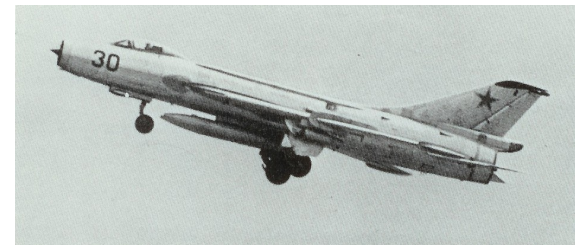
- Maiden Flight 3.th November 1952**



**F100 Super Saber**



**SU7 Fitter**



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken**

- c) **Aircraft 32 Lansen (Strike aircraft)**



**Techology wing demonstrator Aircraft 32 - Saab 202**  
**½ Scale wing. Wing sweep 40o**  
**Maiden Flight 1.th March 1950**

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# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## ② Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

Maiden Flight 25.th October 1955



**F102**



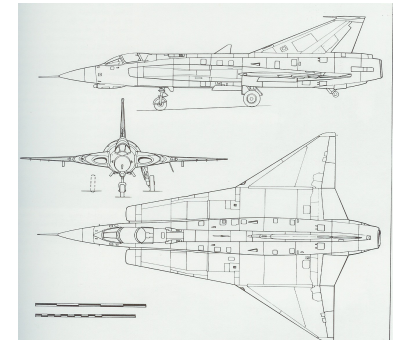
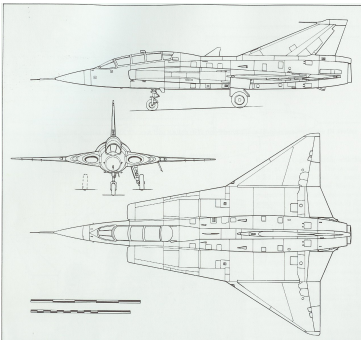
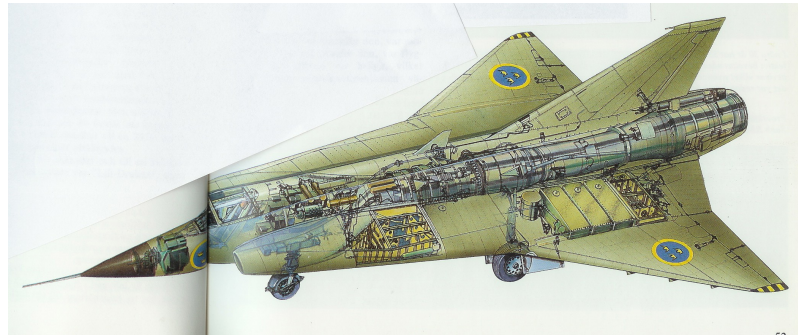
**Mig 21**



**Mirage III**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective





# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

- Swedish Air Force requirement
- Wind tunnel studies and tests of double delta wing design
- Questions (design vs requirements)
- Technology demonstrator **Saab 210**
- Draken prototypes
  - **35-1(A) 1.st Flight 1955-10-25 to**
  - **35-2 maiden flight 23.th March 1956**
  - **35-3 maiden flight 13.th September 1956**
  - **35-4 maiden flight 3.th July 1958**
  - **35-5 maiden flight 15.th February 1958**
  - **35-6 (D) maiden flight 19.th January 1961**
  - **35-7 (F) maiden flight 1.th October 1962**
  - **35-8 maiden flight 16.th November 1962**
  - **35-9 (F) maiden flight 18.th June 1963**
  - **35-10 maiden flight 22.th December 1961**
  - **35-11(B) maiden flight 29.th November 1959**
  - **35-12 (D/F) maiden flight 9.th February 1962**
  - **35-13(D) 1.st Flight 1960-12-27**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Swedish Air Force requirement

**Swedish Air Force requirement was a Fighter aircraft capable to handle the threat from Bomber aircraft at  $M < 1$  on Altitude 11 km (36.000 ft). That required capabilities:**

- **For  $M > 1,5$  at Altitude 11 km (36.000 ft)**
- **To fly at  $M < 1$  at altitude 15 km (50.000 ft)**
- **Take-off and landing at Swedish Air Force bases**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Wind tunnel studies and tests

#### Wind tunnel studies and tests of double delta wing design started 1949

- Inner wing sweep angle 80 degrees
  - Low relative thickness 4 % (12-8%)
  - For low supersonic drag
- Outer wing sweep angle 56 degrees
  - For subsonic at altitude 15 km (50.000 ft)
  - For good low speed handling qualities

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**

## Questions (design vs requirements)

Was it possible to get low supersonic drag?

Was the **available engine (STALGlan T=5.000 kp)** sufficient for  $M>1$ ?

- Development of STAL Glan stopped August 1952

Switch to **Rolls Royce Avon 100** for **35 -1, -2 and -3**

- RM5A gave  $M>1,6$  (3459kp / 4695 kp)

Switch to Rolls Royce Avon **200** for **35 A-C**

- RM6B gave  $M>1,8$  (4750kp / 6340 kp)

Switch to Rolls Royce Avon **300** for **35 D-F and 35J**

- RM6C gave  $M>2$  (5800kp / 8000 kp)

Was it possible to land at Swedish Air Force bases?

**Requires a Technology demonstrator!**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B

#### Scope of test:

- Low Speed Characteristics
  - $V_{max}=555$  km/h (300kts)
  - $Alt_{max}= 4.000$  m (13.200 ft)

Decision April 1950 to develop Saab210

Roll-out 1 November 1951

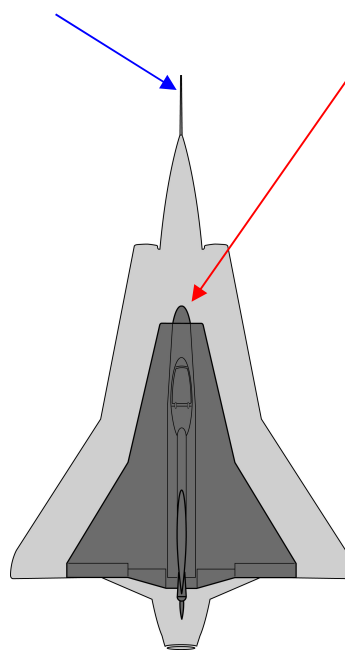
**Maiden Flight 210A 21 Januari 1952**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B

Saab 35-1 and Saab 201A





# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B

<u>Data</u>	<u>210A&amp;B</u>	<u>J35-1</u>
Span:	6,35 m (21 ft)	9,4 m (31 ft)
Length:	8,8 m (29 ft)	15,4 m (51 ft)
Wing aerea:	24,2 m <sup>2</sup> (264 ft <sup>2</sup> )	50 m <sup>2</sup> (545 ft <sup>2</sup> )
Take-off weight:	1.775 kg	9.000 kg
Wing sweep angel:		
• Inner	77o	80o
• Outer	60o	60o

### Remarks:

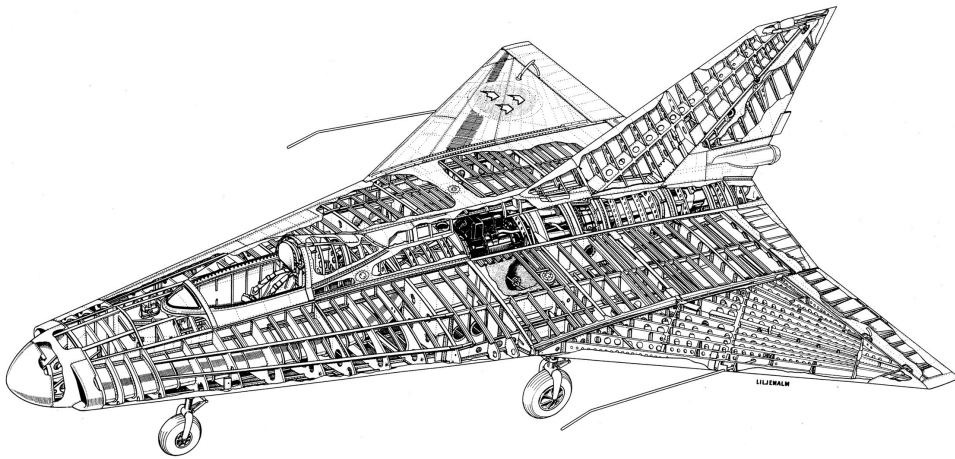
#### Different mod status of Saab 210:

- Saab 210A (Air intakes far forward - Initially)
- Saab 210B (Air intakes production 35 like - Later on)

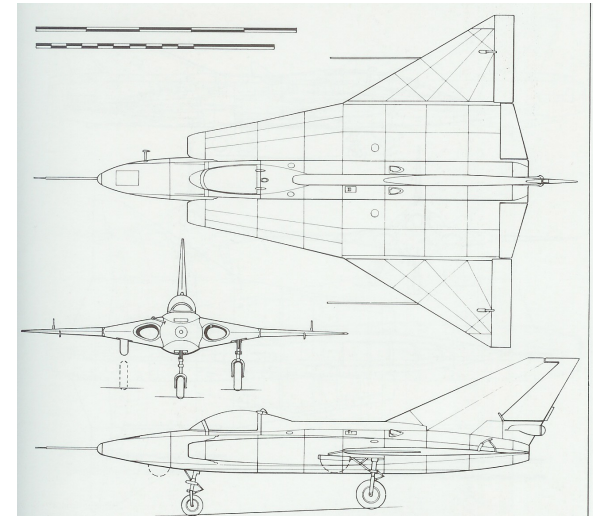
# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B



**Saab 210A**



**Saab 210B**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B



**Saab 210 A**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B



**Saab 210 A**

**Maiden Flight 21 Januari 1952**

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# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B



**Saab 210 B**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B

#### Test equipment onboard

- **Photo panel to record**
  - **Airspeed**
  - **Altitude**
  - **Etc**
- **Oscillograph (12 channels) to record**
  - **Angles**
  - **Angle rate**
  - **Rudder moment**
- **String recording equipment to record**
  - **Pilots comments**



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B

#### Step by step envelope expansion

- **Envelope**
  - Vmax 555 km/t (300 kts)
  - Max alt 4 km (13.200 ft)
- **Flying Qualities at**
  - Medium airspeed
  - Low airspeed
  - Landing
  - High airspeed (540 km/h, 290 kts)

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B

#### Main flight test results

- **Nose wheel lift off**      **125 km/h (68 kts)**
- **Lift off**      **180 km/h (97 kts)**
- **Max speed**      **555 km/h (300 kts)**
- **Approach speed**      **250 km/h (135 kts)**
- **Landing speed**      **190 km/h (103 kts)**
- **Landing roll - no shute**      **300 m (990 ft)**
- **Landing roll - shute**      **200 m (660 ft)**
- **Easy to land**
- **Good low- and medium speed handling qualities**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B

#### Inadvertent pitch-up to 90° AoA (23.March 1953)

- When testing control effectiveness at very low speed
- The first known **superstall** in the world
- Entry: Alt~2000m (6500 ft),  $V_i$ ~105 km/h (57kts)
- Pitch oscillation
- Throttle pull-back from 14.500 to 12.000 rpm
- Full throttle (16.000 rpm) and full stick forward was applied at the point of max oscillation (most nose-down attitude and highest speed)
- Recovery. Pull-up at  $V_i = 280$  km/h (150 kts)
- The pull-up was concluded at an altitude of about 150 m (500 ft)
- Lesson learned
  - The pitch-up occurred very quickly
  - Somewhere between 105 and 100 km/h (57 and 54 kts) at  $CL \sim 1,2$

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Technology demonstrator Draken Saab 210 A & B

#### Summing up

- Saab 210 proved that the concept was right
  - The double delta design worked
- Maiden Flight 21 Januari 1952
- **Superstall 23 March 1953**
- Last Flight 25 October 1956
  - One year after Draken Maiden Flight 25 October 1955
  - One year overlap
- Total test flights:
  - 887
  - 286 flight hours

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### **Saab 35 Draken**

**Decision early 1952 to develop Saab Project 1250 (Draken)**

**Decision April 1952 to develop three prototypes (35-1, 35-2, 35-3)**

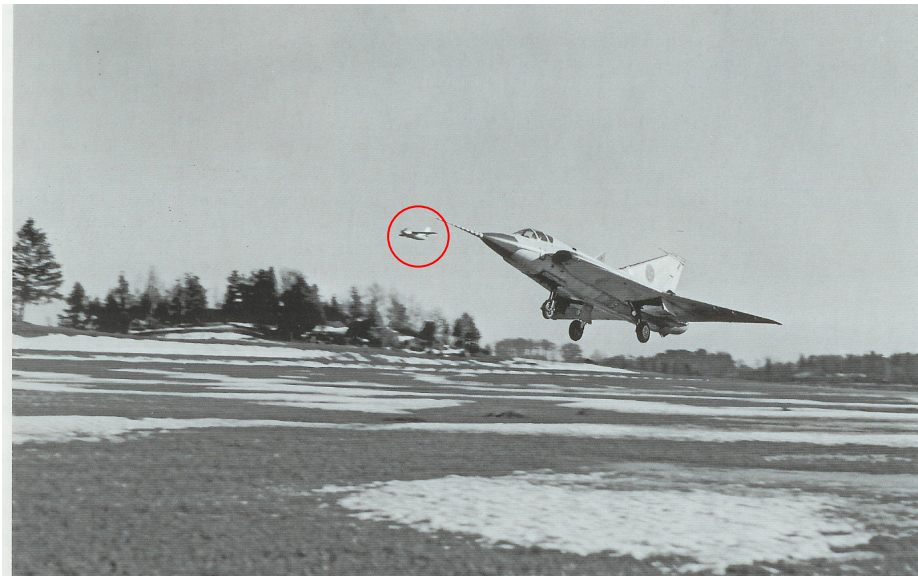
**Scope of test: To prove the Swedish Air Force Requirements:**

- **To fly  $M > 1,5$  at Altitude 11 km (36.000 ft)**
- **To fly at  $M < 1$  at altitude 15 km (50.000 ft)**
- **To take-off and land at Swedish Air Force bases**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

## Draken Saab 35-1



**Maiden Flight 25.th October 1955**  
**Chase aircraft J29 Tunnan**



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**

## **Saab 35 Draken**

### **Prototype aircraft 35 Draken**

#### **J35-1 Maiden flight 25.th October 1955**

- Subsonic testing (no afterburner)
- FQ and performance  $M < 1$  to landing speed
- $M > 1$  in shallow dive

#### **35-2 Maiden flight 23.th March 1956**

- $M > 1$  during climb
- FQ and performance  $M > 1$

#### **35-3 Maiden flight 13.th September 1956**

- FQ and performance  $M > 1$

#### **J35-4 Maiden flight 3.th July 1958**

- $M > 2$  level fight 14 February 1960

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Saab 35 Draken

#### Step by step envelope expansion

##### FQ and performance at

- Medium airspeed and altitude
- Low airspeed at medium and low altitude
- Landing
- High subsonic airspeed / high altitude
- High supersonic airspeed / high altitude

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**

## **Saab 35 Draken**

### **Test equipment onboard**

- **Photo panel to record**
  - **Airspeed**
  - **Altitude**
  - **Etc**
- **Oscillograph (12 channels) to record**
  - **Angles**
  - **Angle rate**
  - **Rudder moment**
- **String recording equipment to record**
  - **Pilots comments**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**

## **Saab 35 Draken**

### **Problems**

#### **Wheels-up-landing April 1956**

- **35-2 Wheels-up-landing at Saab early April**
  - Pilot error
  - Test Pilot 1 hurt in his spinal column
    - Fit for flight within 6 weeks
  - Aircraft damaged – Ready for flight in July
- **35-1 Wheels-up-landing at F3 late April**
  - Landing gear malfunction
  - Test Pilot 2 hurt in his spinal column
    - Fit for flight within 6 weeks
  - Aircraft damaged – Ready for flight in July

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Saab 35 Draken

#### Problems

#### Superstall 7th. June 1960 at F13 (conversion training)

- J 35A (35.018)
- Pilot made a split-S-manouver
- The aircraft made a rapid pitch-up
- Oscillated i pitch, wings level, low airspeed, high sink rate (Later defined as superstall)
- He was not able to recover, tried to eject
- The ejection seat malfunctioned, pilot was killed
- **The Draken Spin flight test program accelerated**
  - **First test flight 25 March 1961 (see para 6a)**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 2. Draken development process from a flight testing perspective

### Saab 35 Draken

#### Problems

#### Wing hydraulic servo stall

- In the later version production versions of Draken J35D and J35F, with increased weight and a more forward center of gravity, **servostall** occurred at transonic speed, that made it difficult to pull out from a dive
- It was cured by a flight control system modification. It worked so that when servo stall occurred during a pull up at high speed, the system **automtically initiated the upper two air brakes as maneuvering flaps**, which restored the maneuverability

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## Saab J35J Draken



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken**
- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**
- **Draken Flight characteristics and Handling qualities**
- **Flight test procedures and the how the test engineer interacts with the test pilot**
- **Cooper-Harper rating, what it is and how does it work, ever used on 35?**
- **Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics**



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**

## **Flight characteristics**

### **A very good Fighter aircraft "A pilots aircraft"**

- **Good flying characteristics**
- **Fast M2+**
- **Good instantaneous turning performance**
- **Fair steady state turning performance**
- **Very good rolling performance**
- **Fair landing performance**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 3. Draken Flight characteristics and Handling qualities

### Handling qualities

Good handling qualities

Initially a little sensitive in pitch

That was later **qured** by a modified gearing in the control stick

- **Lower elevon deflection** for a certain stick input around neutral trim, than the **earlier linear gearing**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken**
- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**
- **Draken Flight characteristics and Handling qualities**
- **Flight test procedures and the how the test engineer interacts with the test pilot**
- **Cooper-Harper rating, what it is and how does it work, ever used on 35?**
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# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 4. Flight test procedures and the how the test engineer interacts with the test pilot

### Flight test procedures

Create a **master test plan** for *performance* and *flying qualities* with special focus on the two new areas, compared with Saab flight test of the earlier subsonic aircraft

- Draken was predicted to be capable to fly up to  $M=2$
- How the double-delta design would behave during landing

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 4. Flight test procedures and the how the test engineer interacts with the test pilot

### Flight test procedures

**A detailed test plan for each test flight** is worked out by the ***flight test engineer***, in co-operation with the ***test pilot***

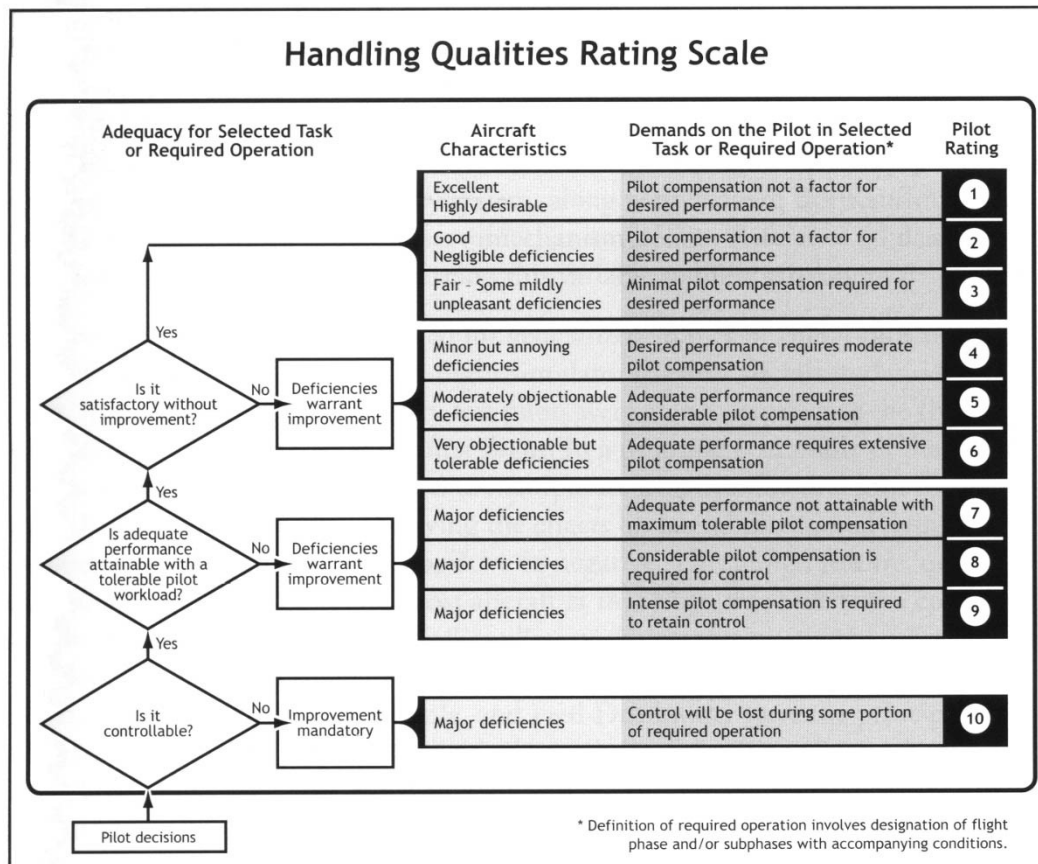
Those detailed test plans sometimes have to be adjusted, depending on the fall-out of the previous tes

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken**
- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**
- **Draken Flight characteristics and Handling qualities**
- **Flight test procedures and the how the test engineer interacts with the test pilot**
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# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

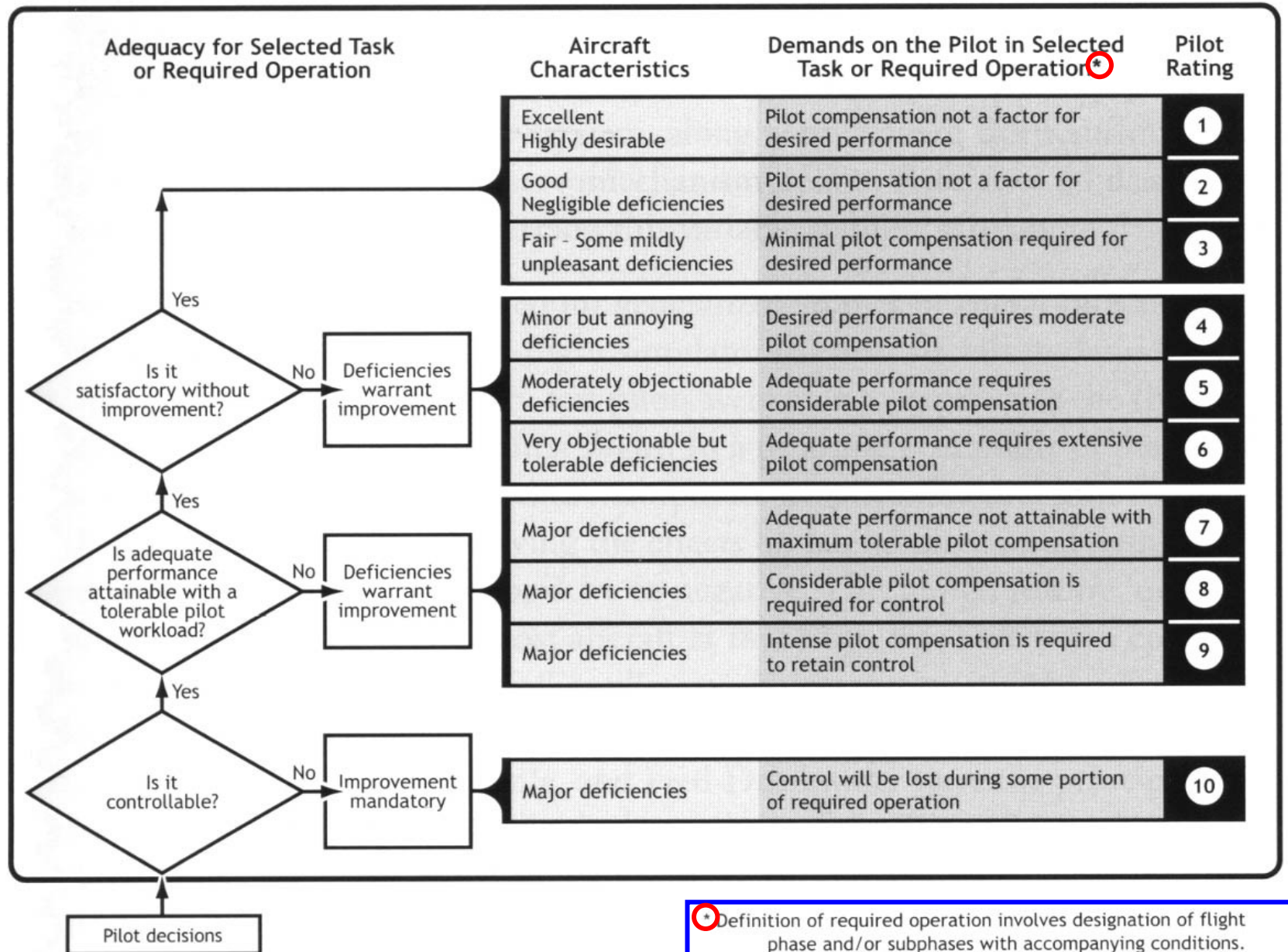
## 5. Cooper-Harper rating, what it is and how does it work, ever used on 35?



The Cooper-Harper handling qualities rating scale gives the test pilot guidance how to grade an aircraft handling qualities from

- CH 1 Excellent down to
- CH 10 Major deficiencies

# Handling Qualities Rating Scale

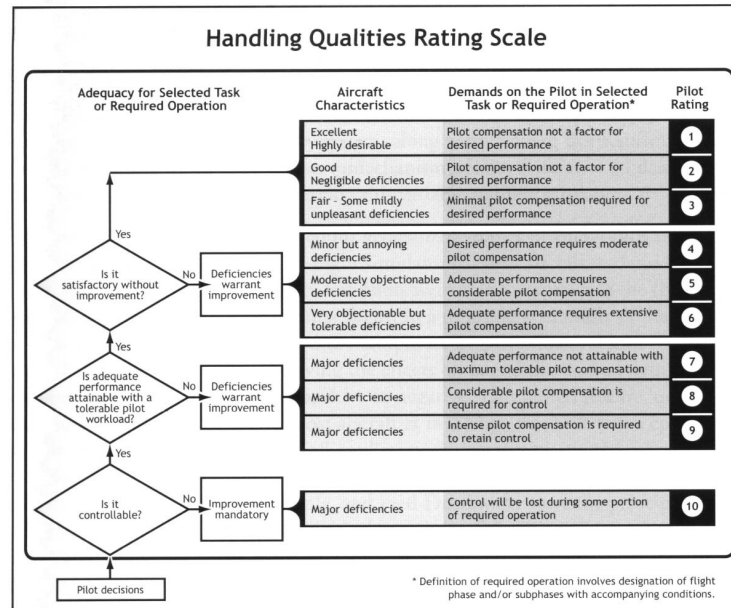




# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 5. Cooper-Harper rating, what it is and how does it i work, ever used on 35?

The Cooper-Harper handling qualities rating scale was **not** used at Saab during Draken Flight Test



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

- **Saab jet aircraft development before a/c 35 Draken**
- **Draken development process from a flight testing perspective**
- **Draken Flight characteristics and Handling qualities**
- **Flight test procedures and the how the test engineer interacts with the test pilot**
- **Cooper-Harper rating, what it is and how does it work, ever used on 35?**
- **Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

- a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken
- b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

### Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken was running 1955 to 1963

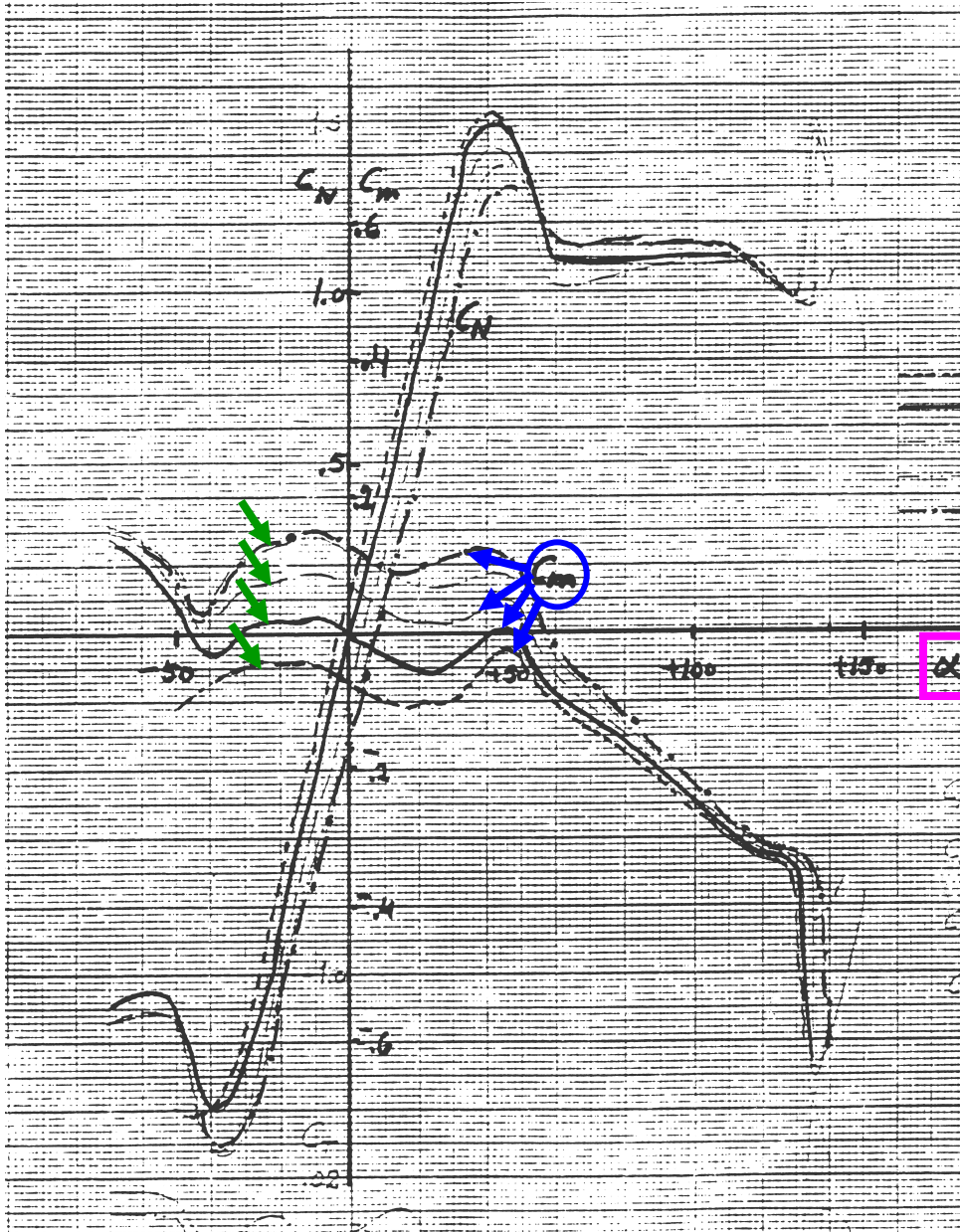
- Vindtunnel tests 1955-58
- Model tests 1958-1961
  - RAE 1958-60
  - Saab 1961
- Full scale flight tests 1961-63
  - Test aircraftfpl
  - Production aircraft

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

Vindtunnel tests 1955-58



## Vindtunnel tests 1955-58

Low speed aerodynamics

alfa  $0^\circ$  to  $+130^\circ$

- $C_m$  vs AoA and e.g.

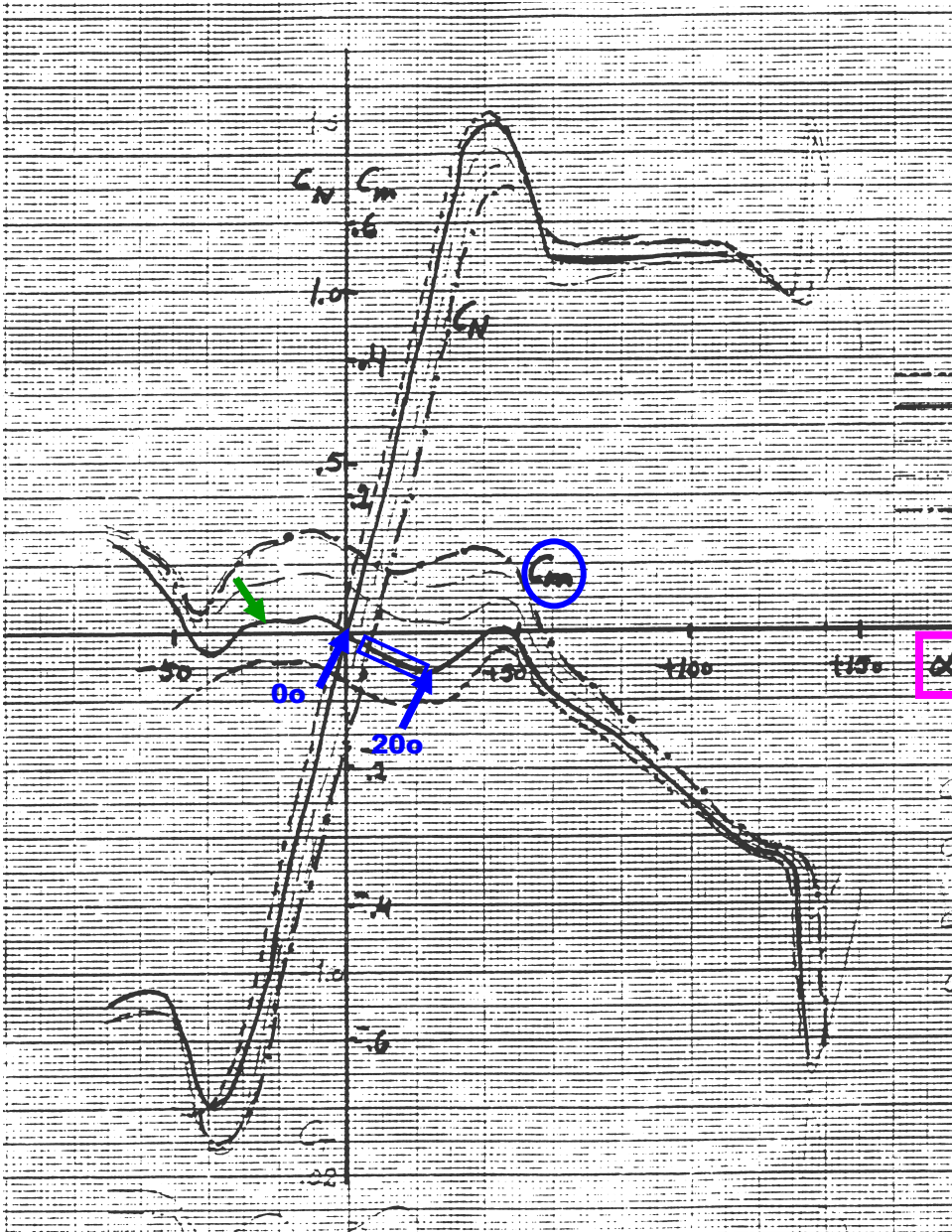
## Vindtunnel tests 1955-58

Low speed aerodynamics

alfa  $0^\circ$  to  $+130^\circ$

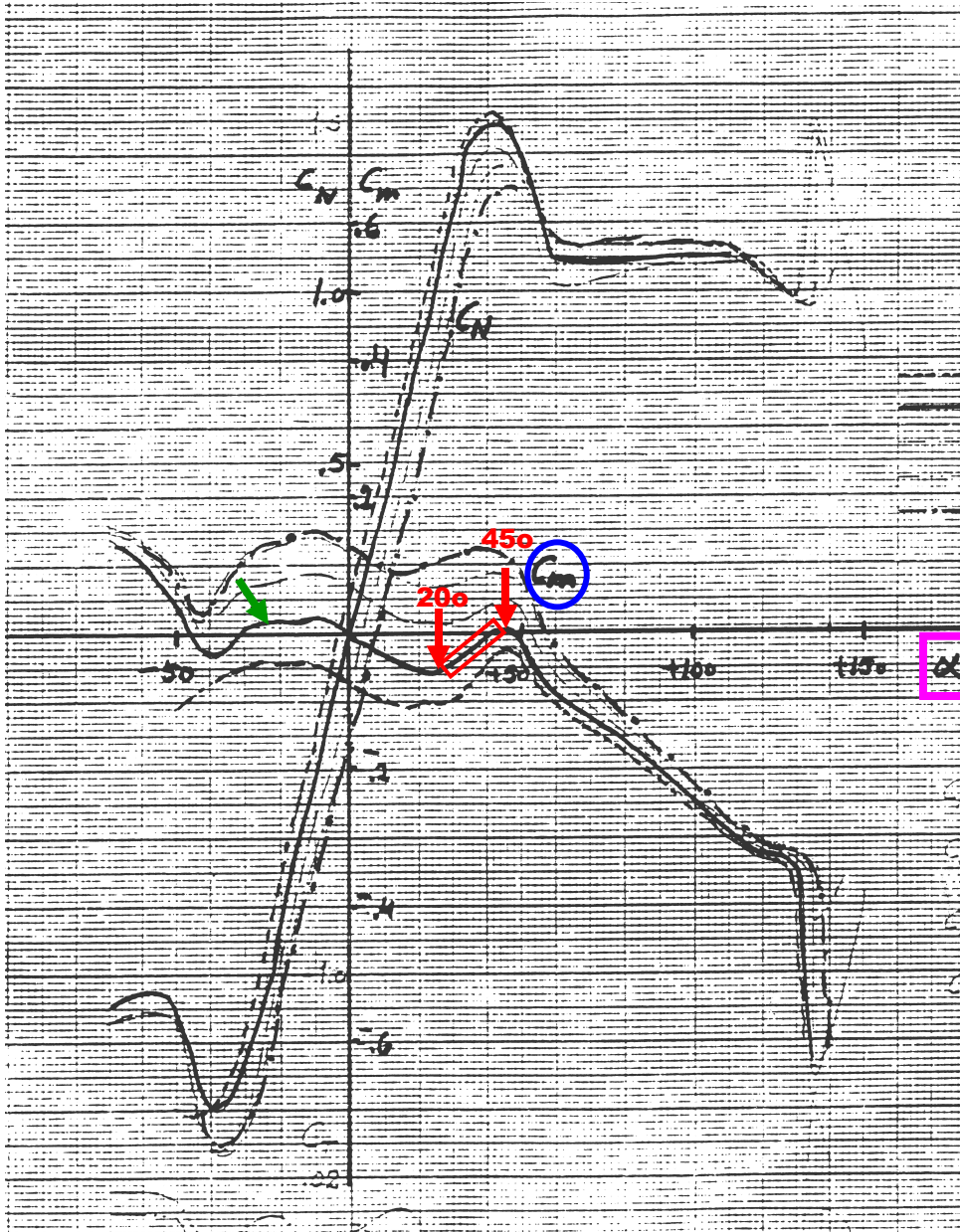
•  $C_m$  vs AoA and c.g.

– Stable for AoA  $0-20^\circ$





## Vindtunnel tests 1955-58



Low speed aerodynamics  
alfa 0° to +130°

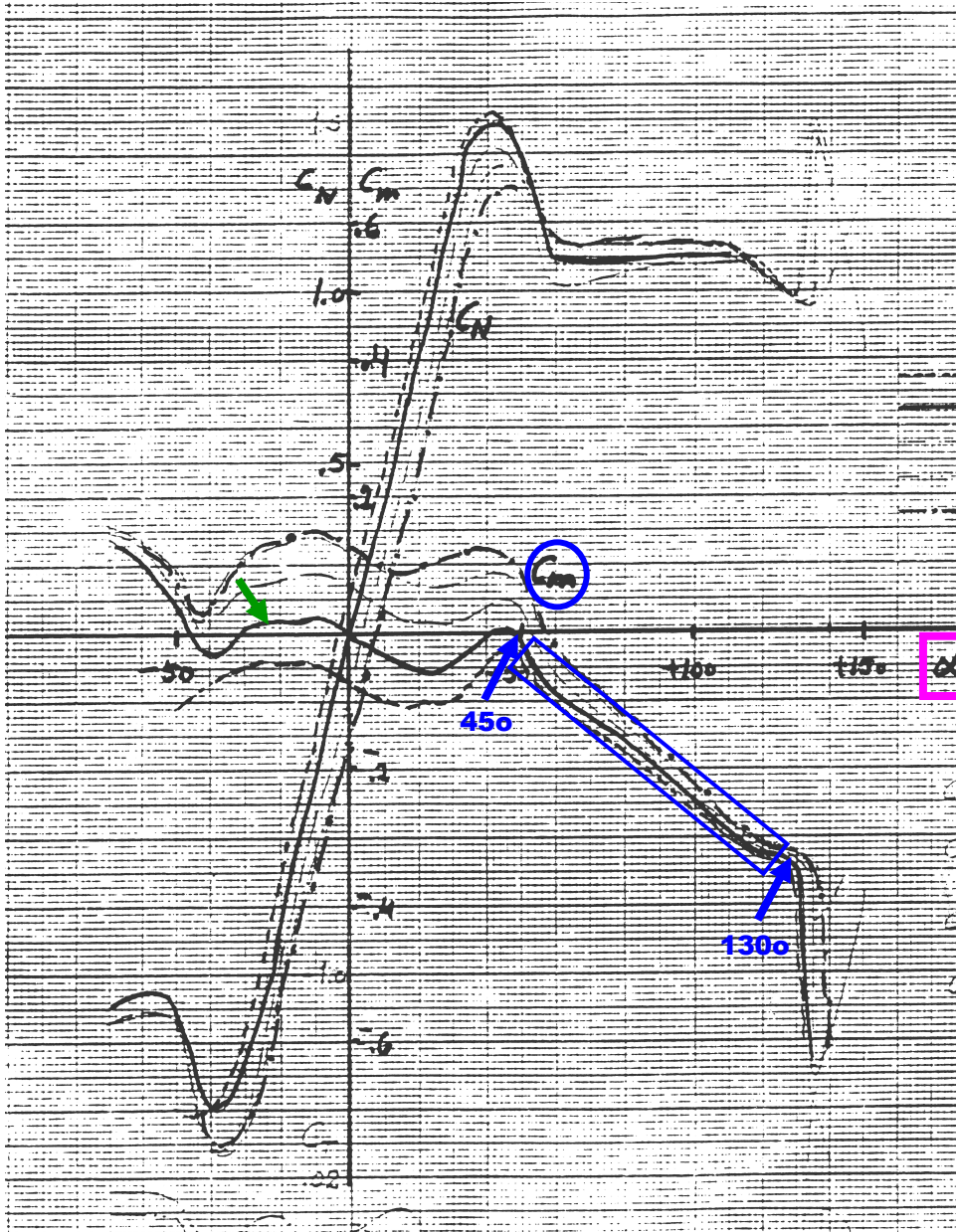
- $C_m$  vs AoA and c.g.
  - Stable for AoA 0-20°
  - Unstable in pitch for AoA 20-45°

## Vindtunnel tests 1955-58

Low speed aerodynamics  
alfa 0° to +130°

•  $C_m$  vs AoA and c.g.

- Stable for AoA 0-20°
- Unstable in pitch for AoA 20-45°
- Superstable for AoA > 45°  
Superstall





# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### Model tests 1958-1961

- **RAE 1958-60**
  - Some 20 drops of a 35 Draken aircraft model (scale 1:6,5) from helicopter at Royal Aircraft Establishment
  - The drop test indicated a normal spin
  - That lead to the conclusion to use **stick forward** and **pro-spin ailerons** for the recovery

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### Model tests 1958-1961

- **Saab 1961**
  - Complimentary drops of the 35 Draken aircraft model (scale 1:6,5) from a ballon at Flugebyn airfield Karlsborg, after recovery problems in the second full scale spin flight test in 35-2, 25 April 1961
  - The conclusion was that **neutral controls** was enough for recovery

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

**Full scale Spin Trials with 35 Draken was running 1961 to 1963**

- **Flight test from 25th. March 1961 to 1th. April 1963, with**
  - **35-2**
  - **35.027 (J35A)**
  - **35.800 (SK35C)**
  - **35-4 (J35D and J35F)**
  - **250 superstalls during 88 flights**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35-2 (25 March 1961 – June 1962)

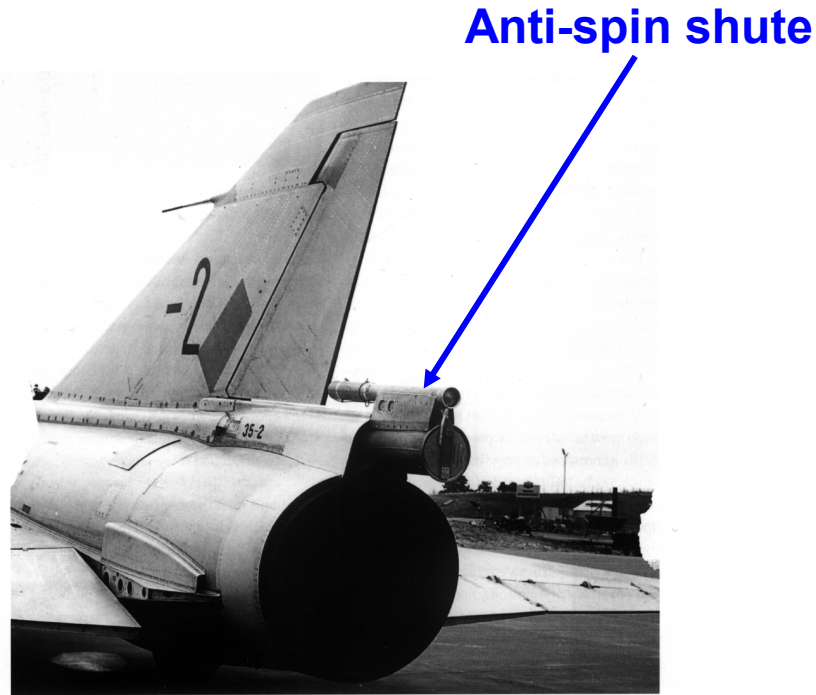
- Clean aircraft
- Specially equipped
  - Anti-spin shute
  - Cocpit
  - Registration equipment

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

**35-2**



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35-2 Cockpit

#### Altimeter

- **Red** below 3.000 m (10.000 ft)

#### Special calibrated IAS

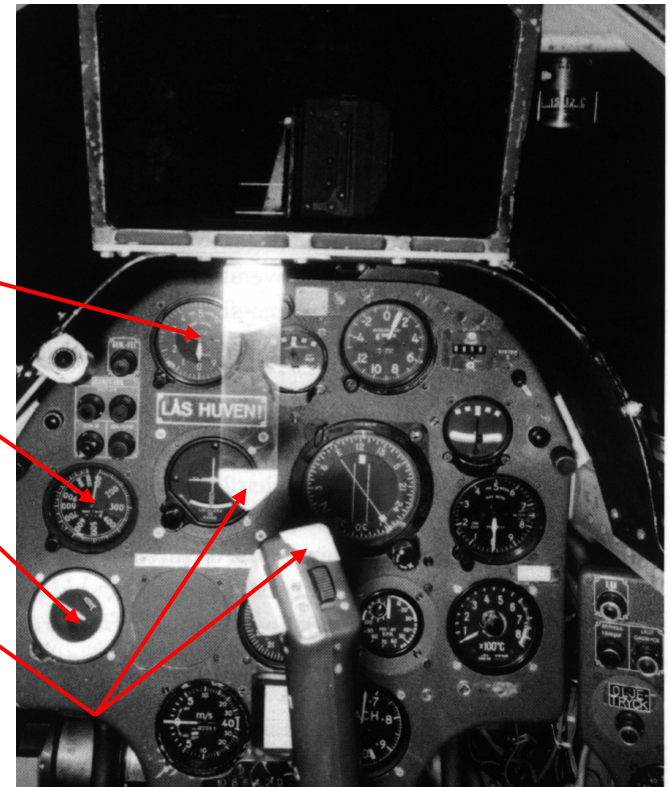
- **Red** below 350 km/t (190 kts)

#### AoA indikator

#### Two indikator lamps for spin direction

#### Control stick indikator

- After problems in spin test 1 och 2



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35-2

#### Test equipment on-board

##### Photo panel to record

- Airspeed
- Altitude
- Etc

##### Oscillograph (12 channels) to record

- Angles
- Angle rate
- Rudder moment

##### String recording equipment to record

- Pilots comments



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35-2

#### 1.th Spinn test flight (1961-03-25)

- **Entry:**
  - $V_i=275$  km/h                      Alt 12.000 m
- **Result:**
  - Pitch-up, pitch oscillations (5 sec cycle), yaw
- **Recovery controls:**
  - In-spin-ailron, stick forward, rudder against rotation
- **Result:**
  - Recovered immediately, **rapid roll during recovery**
- **Before 2.nd spin test flight**
  - Analysies showed that in-spin-ailron gave the roll

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35-2

2.nd Spinn test flight (1961-04-25 = + 1 month)

#### Entry:

- $V_i=275$  km/h      Alt 12.000 m

#### Result:

- Pitch-up, pitch oscillations (5 sec cycle), yaw

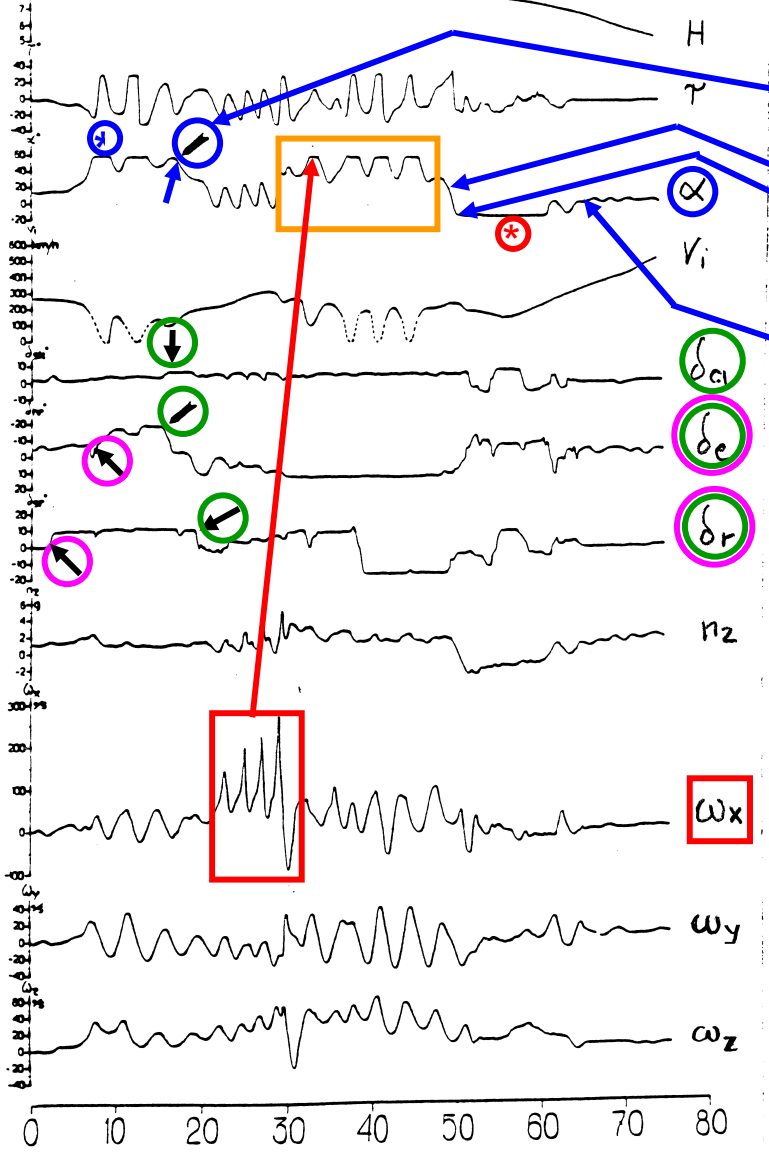
#### Recovery controls:

- In spin airon, stick forward, rudder against rotation

#### Result:

- Recovered immediately, **rapid divergent roll** developed that lead to a **new superstall**, recovered, flipped over to an **inverted superstall**, pilot activated the **anti-spin shute**, recovered succesfully

SPINNPROV nr 2 (Spinning ång)



- Entry rudder initiated
- Recovery rudder initiated
- Alfa decreases
- Divergent roll
- New superstall
- Spontaneous recovery
- Flips over to inverted ss
- Antispinshute out on A=8 km
- Aircraft recovers from ss

AoA-probe limited to the range  $+60^\circ$  to  $-15^\circ$

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

**35-2**

**2.nd Spinn test flight (1961-04-25 = + 1 month)**

#### **Before 3.rd spin test flight**

- **Simulations with 3 degrees of freedom**
- **Further 35 model drops from ballon in Flugebyn Karlsborg**
- **Best means of recovery was stick fully forward, ailrons neutral**
- **Stick position indicator was added (helps pilot keep ailron neutral)**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35-2

#### 3.rd Spinn test flight (1961-09-13 = + 4,5 month)

##### Entry:

- $V_i=275$  km/h Alt 12.000 m

##### Result:

- Pitch-up, pitch oscillations (5 sec cycle), yaw

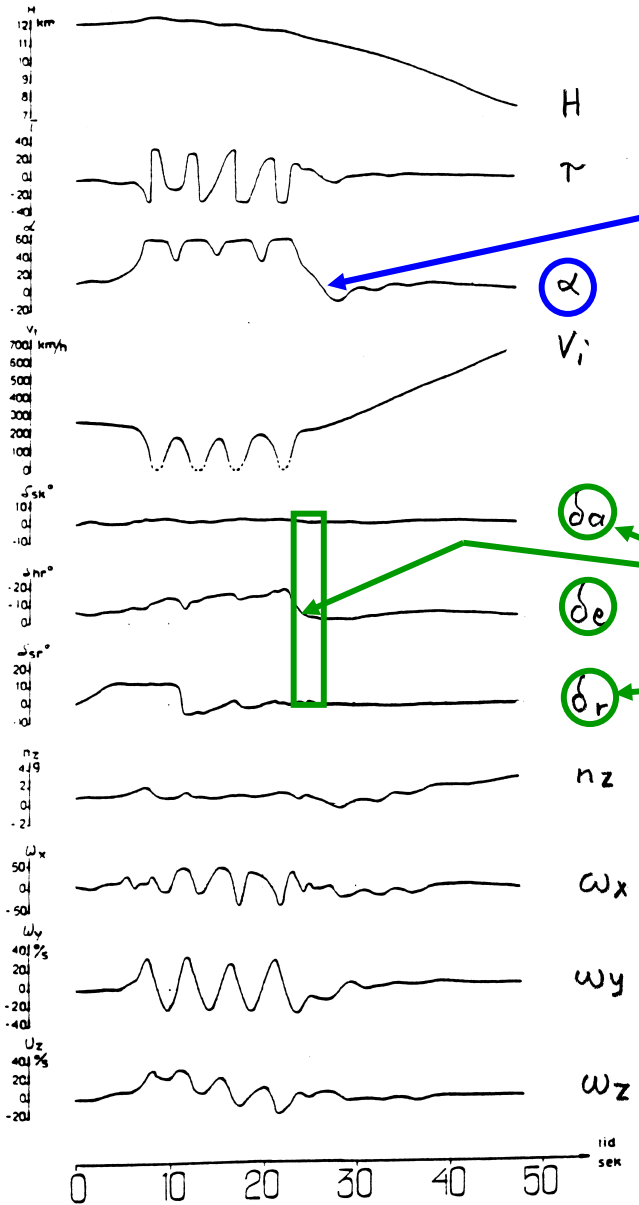
##### Recovery controls:

- Stick forward, aileron and rudder neutral

##### Result:

- **Immediate recovery**

SPINNPROV nr 3 (spinningång)



Immediate recovery

Recovery controls

- Elevator fully forward
- Ailron and rudder neutral

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### **35.027 (J35A) (15 August 1962 – 14 December 1962)**

##### **35.027 with short tailpipe (J35A)**

##### **Scope of test**

- **Assess recovery characteristics with production flight control system**
- **Assess characteristics compared to 35-2**

##### **54 Superstalls**

- **34 clean aircraft**
- **20 with 1 drop tank**

##### **No specific spin test equipment, except**

- **Anti-spin-shute in drag shute compartement**



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35.027 (J35A)

#### Superstall characteristics compared to 35-2

- Softer pitch-up
- Quicker recovery
- Small delay in recovery with a drop tank

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35.800 (SK35C) (17 September 1962 –1 April 1963)

##### Scope of test

- Assess characteristics compared to 35.027 (J35A)
- Assess possibilities for an instructor pilot in rear seat to demonstrate superstall for a student pilot in front seat

##### 82 Superstalls

- 17 clean aircraft
- 37 with ventral fins under the outer wings
  - Ventral fins added after test flight 3
- 28 with ventral finns and one drop tank

##### Anti-spin-shut

- Initially in drag shute compartement
- After test flight 3, same type of anti-spin-shute as in 35-2

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

Saab SK 35C Draken



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35.800 (SK35C)

#### Superstall characteristics compared to 35.027 (J35A)

- 2.nd test flight
  - More yaw rotation
  - First **recovery attempt failed**
  - Second recovery attempt successful
- 3.rd test flight
  - **Recovery attempt failed**
  - **Anti-spin-shute activated (failed)**
  - Spontaneous recovery
  - Heavy sideslip at recovery

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35.800 (SK35C)

#### Superstall characteristics compared to 35.027 (J35A)

- **Before 4.th. test flight**
  - One ventral fin under each outer wing
  - Anti-spin-shute changed to 35-2 installation
- **4.th test flight**
  - **Immediate recovery**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

**35.800 (SK35C)**

**Superstall characteristics compared to 35.027 (J35A)**

- After adding ventral fins, the 35.800 superstall- and recovery characteristics became equal to 35.027 (J35A)

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### 35-4 with long tailpipe (J35D and J35F)

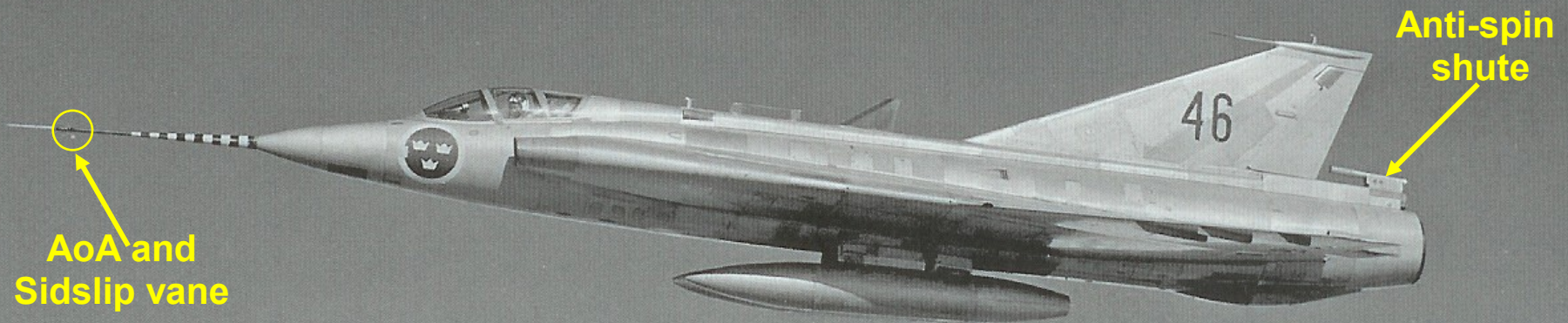
#### Superstall characteristics compared to 35.027 (J35A)

- A couple of test flights was performed
- The J35D and J35F superstall- and recovery characteristics are equal to 35.027 (J35A)



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## Saab 35-4 Draken





# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### Summing up – Draken Superstall Characteristics

- The Saab 35 Draken has, especially at high altitudes and low IAS, a **weak stall warning** and will due to a **pitch-up at CL ~0,7** enter a stall. This pitch-up can during an accelerated stall be controlled by **rapidly applying forward stick**
- During such a stall entry, the load factor will rise some 70 %. Entering the stall, **the aircraft may tumble** but will **always stabilize at approximately 1 g after a few seconds**
- This stalled condition does not meet the definition of conventional spin. Rather the aircraft is flying continually in a stalled condition, here termed **superstall**. The superstall can be either stable or pitching, with or without rotation

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### a) Saab Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### Summing up – Draken Superstall Characteristics (cont)

- The **recovery is quick** if correct recovery action is applied. **Rotation in yaw will delay recovery a few seconds**. Repeated recovery action shall therefore not be made too soon (10-15 sec)
- **No significant difference** has been discovered due to **c.g. position**
- **Wind tunnel tests** through the AoA-range, **free model spin** tests as well as **simulations** have been of great help
- The **ram air turbine** (that normally gives emergency electricity and hydraulic pressure) **is of no use as a stand-by system** for the hydraulic pressure at the AoA occurring **during superstall**.

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

**FC complementary Spin Trials was running 1968 to 1974**

**Superstall demonstration program in SK35C 1968-1970**

- **Develop a Superstall demo program**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### FC complementary Spin Trials was running 1968 to 1974

Superstall demonstration program in SK35C 1968-1970

- Develop a Superstall demo program

#### Complementary test J35F characteristics vs SK35C 1973-1974

- Clean aircraft
- Two drop tanks

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

**FC complementary Spin Trials was running 1968 to 1974  
Superstall demonstration program in SK35C**

- Prepared a Superstall demo program 1969 to 1970 (2 flights & 10 superstalls for each student)
- Teached five flight instructors at Draken central conversion unit at F16 Uppsala Mars 1970

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### FC complementary Spin Trials was running 1968 to 1974

##### Superstall demonstration program in SK35C

- Prepared a Superstall demo program 1969-1970 (2 flights & 10 superstalls for each student)
- Teached five flight instructors at Draken central conversion unit at F16 Uppsala Mars 1970

#### J35F Superstall characteristics vs SK35C 1973 to 1974

- Clean aircraft
  - More pitch oscillation (easier to recover)
  - Less yaw rotation
- Two drop tanks
  - Same yaw rotation
  - Yaw rotation easy to stop with in-spin-ailron

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### FC Flight Test Videos

**SS nr 1-AN 37 sek**

- **Vertikal entry**
  - **Alt=12km/40.000ft**
  - **M=0,8**
- **Neutral controls on top**
- **The a/c recovered by itself**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### FC Flight Test Videos

##### SS nr 2-AN 40 sek

- Turn entry
  - Alt=12km/40.000ft
  - M=0,6
- Slow rotation in yaw
- Stick forward
- **Immediate recovery**



# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### FC Flight Test Videos

**SS nr 3-AN 55 sek**

- Turn entry
  - Alt=12km/40.000ft
  - M=0,6
- Slow rotation in yaw
- **Ailron against the yaw rotation increases rotation in yaw**
- Stick forward
- **Delayed recovery**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### FC Flight Test Videos

##### SS nr 4-GM 55 sek

- Level flight entry
  - Alt=12km/40.000ft
  - Vi=280 km/h (150 kts)
- Pitch oscillating superstall
- Stick forward when pitching forward
- **Immediate recovery**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### FC Flight Test Videos

##### SS nr 5-GM 20 sek

- Turn entry
  - Alt=12km/40.000ft
  - M=0,6
- Pitch-up
- Stick immediately forward
- **Immediate recovery**

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### FC Flight Test Videos

##### SS nr 6-GM 55 sek

- Turn entry
  - Alt=12km/40.000ft
  - M=0,6
- Pitch-up
- Stick immediately forward and kept there for ~15 sec
- Departure with **violent tumbling, engine flame-out** due to large sideslip and AoA
- **Stick fully aft** and kept there for ~15 sec (a/c calmed down, erected with no pitch oscillation)

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

## 6. Superstall and spin testing, Superstall characteristics

### b) FC complementary Spin Trials with 35 Draken

#### FC Flight Test Videos

##### SS nr 6-GM 55 sek (cont)

- Stick fully forward and kept there for ~15 sec (slow stick rate because hydraulic pressure became low due to the flame-out)
- Recovery after some hesitation
- Smooth pull-up
- Engine relight was successful during pull-up

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken



Göte Marcusson 2 March 2009

# Flight testing the Saab 35 Draken

Saab J35J Draken



Göte Marcusson 2 March 2009