

POLE PLATFORMS

DESCRIPTION AND USE

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section describes the B and C Pole Platforms which are used by one craftsman when performing work on or adjacent to a pole.

1.02 This section is reissued to include information on the new C Pole Platform which supersedes the B Pole Platform.

2. DESCRIPTION

2.01 ♦The C Pole Platform (Fig. 1) utilizes an orange fiberglass reinforced epoxy (Epoxyglas®) material for the platform and braces. The tread surface of the platform is coated with a light grey nonskid paint finish. The weight of the complete platform is approximately 42 pounds.♦

2.02 ♦The saddle of the pole binder on the C Pole Platform (Fig. 2) is semi-circular shaped and has small teeth on the inside surface to bite into the pole.♦

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2.03 ♦The superseded B Pole Platform has a wooden platform and wooden braces and weighs approximately 33 pounds. The tread surface of the platform is coated with a dark green nonskid paint finish. The saddle of the pole binder is "V" shaped as shown in Fig. 3 and does not have the teeth used with the C Pole Platform binder.♦

2.04 Both platforms utilize a detachable hinge pin (Fig. 2 and 3) linking the two castings. This hinge pin performs two functions:

(a) It allows the chain tightener to be applied on either side of the pole, for example, if in the previous working position the tightener was on the field side of the pole, it can be transferred to the road side by removing the hinge pin and turning the pole casting upside down.

(b) In locations where space is limited, the pole casting can be removed prior to lifting the rest of the platform. Similarly, in removing the platform it may be helpful to separate the board from the pole casting and locking chain.

2.05 The B Riser Protector (Fig. 4) is used to protect vertically run ground wires, cable, molding, conduit, etc, from the binding action of the locking chain. After securing the end of the riser protector safety chain to the pole with a strap nail or 10D nail to keep it from falling, place the riser protector in the desired position over the riser. Securely fasten it with three turns of 2-inch wide friction tape wrapped around the pole.

3. USE

3.01 Before installing a pole platform, the craftsman should familiarize himself with the operation of the safety locking chain tightener. Figure 5 shows the handle in open position with the safety pin inserted in the temporary chain retaining position. The safety pin in this position prevents the chain from slipping while final adjustments are being made after the platform is attached to the pole.

3.02 After final positioning on the pole is made, the handle is placed in the closed position (Fig. 6). The action of closing the handle when the chain is engaged tightens the chain. As the handle moves past dead center, it locks and when placed in the completely closed position the safety catch engages. The safety pin on the end of the load chain is then brought around the end of the

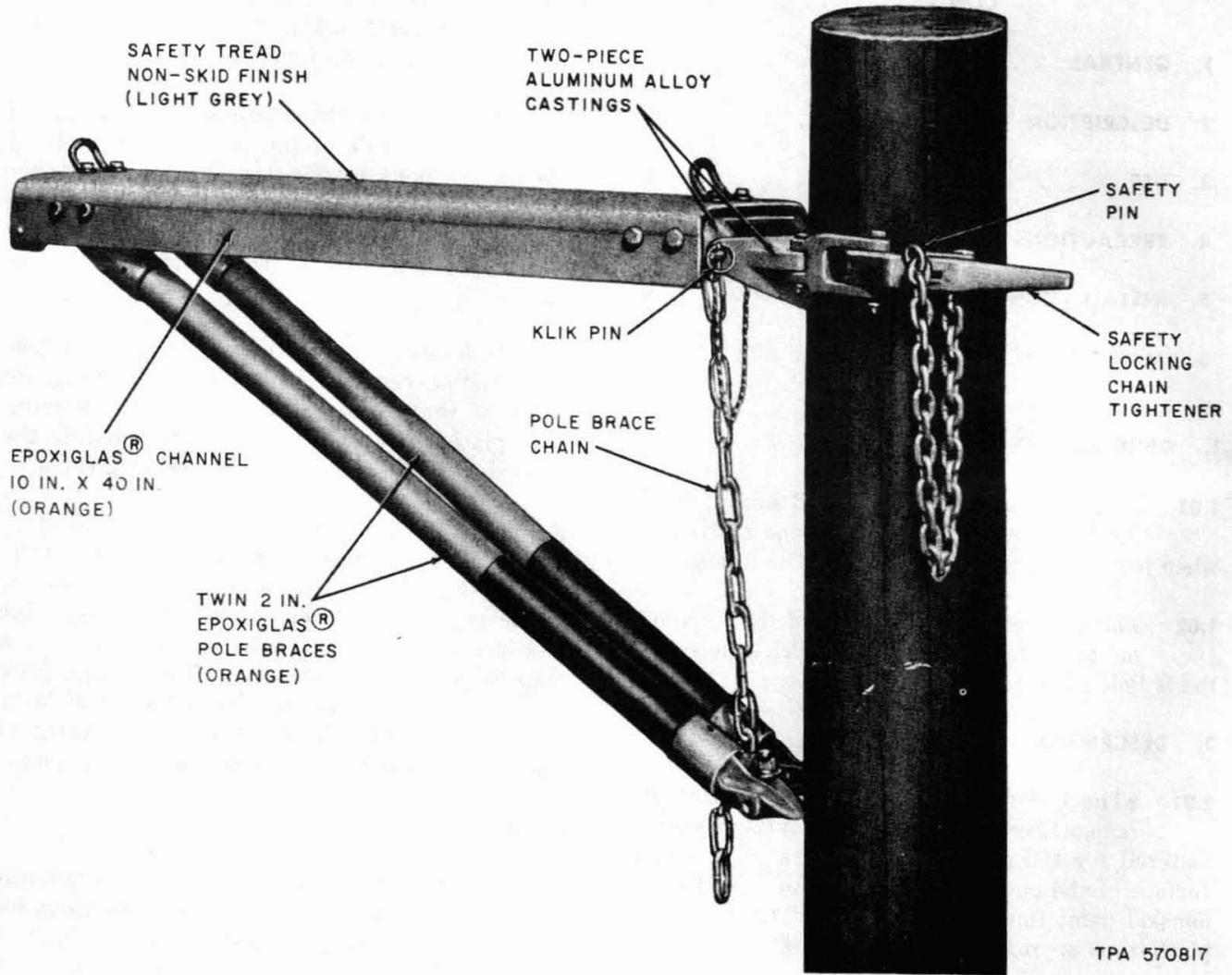
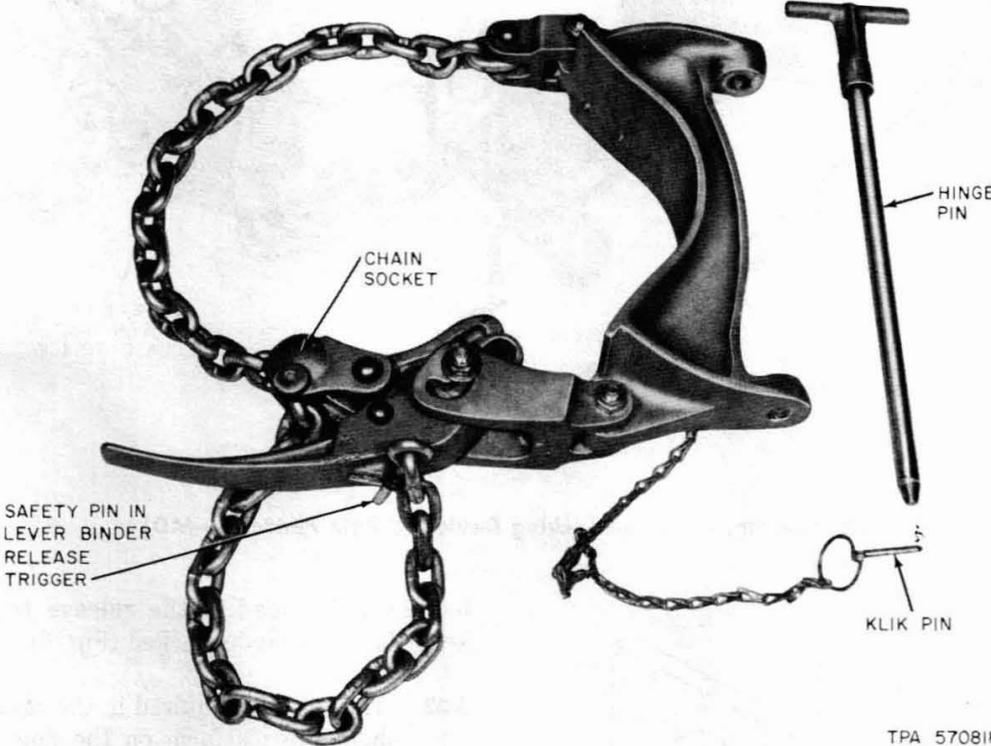
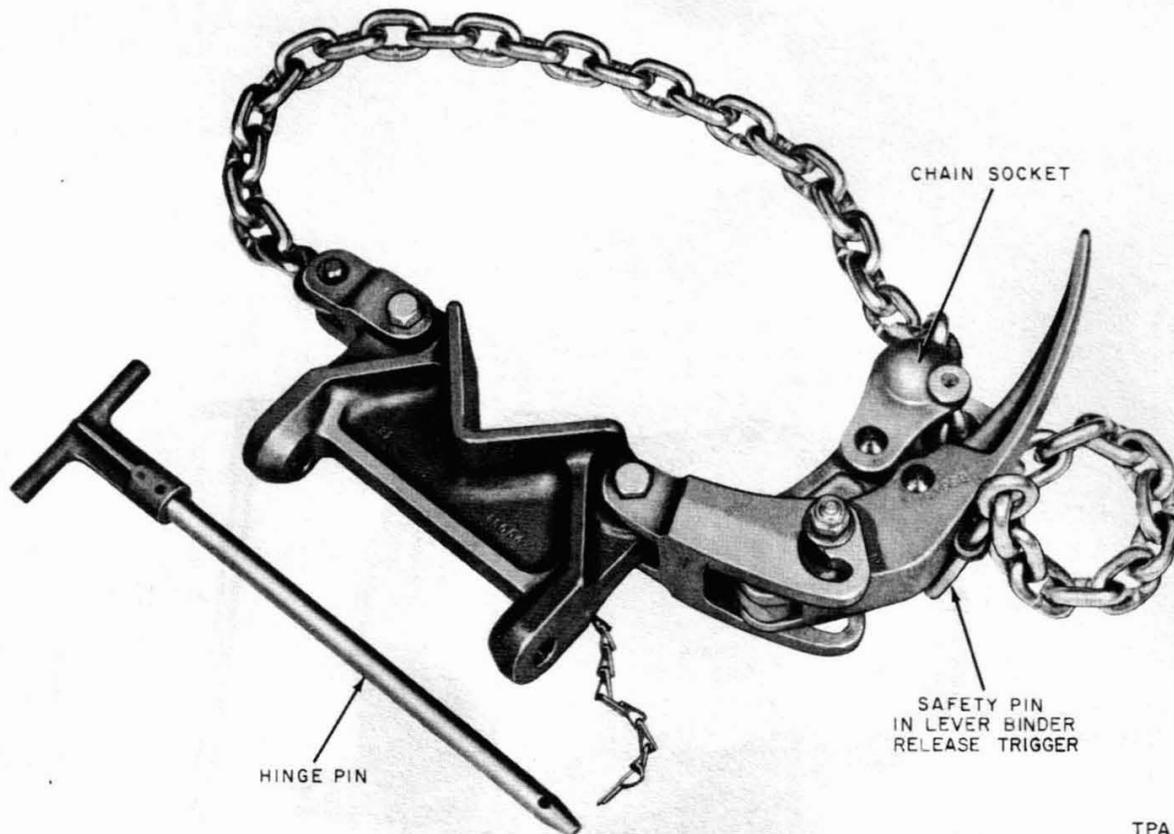


Fig. 1—C Pole Platform



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Fig. 2—Hinge Pin and Locking Device (C Pole Platform)



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Fig. 3—Hinge Pin and Locking Device (B Pole Platform—MD)

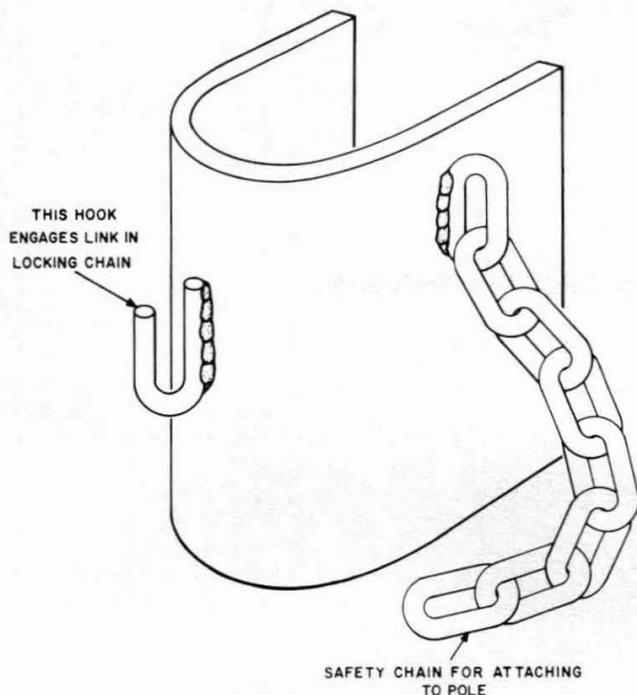


Fig. 4—Riser Protector

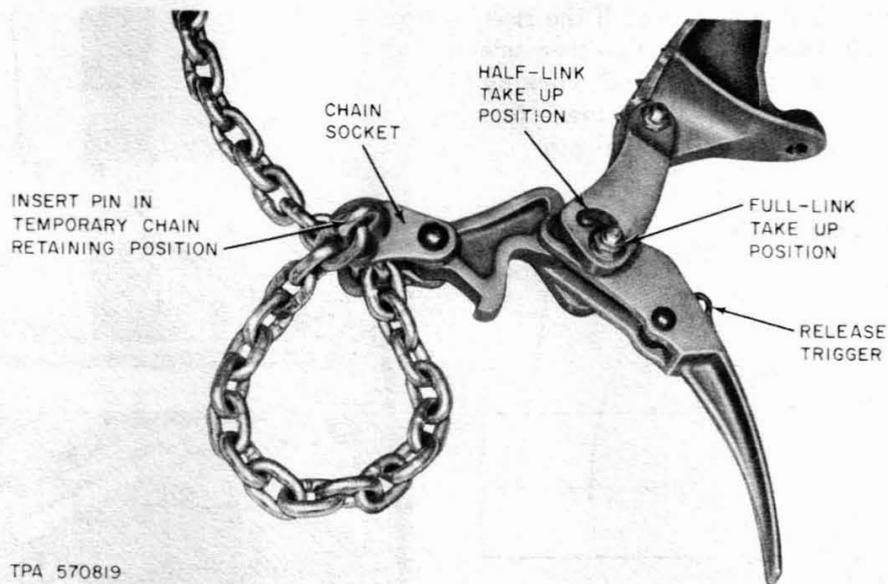
handle and placed in the release trigger hole to keep the lever binder locked (Fig. 6).

3.03 The tension required in the chain to securely hold the platform on the pole is not great. *The locking lever should be operated by firm hand pressure only. Under no circumstances should the length of the lever arm be increased.* If the tension in the chain is so great as to require more than firm hand pressure, this indicates the chain is too tight and either the half-link setting should be tried or the chain grip moved back one link in the socket.

Note: ♦On the earlier design B Pole Platforms there is no temporary chain retaining locking position in the chain socket as shown in Fig. 5. Therefore, *ensure that the chain link is properly seated in the chain socket.*♦

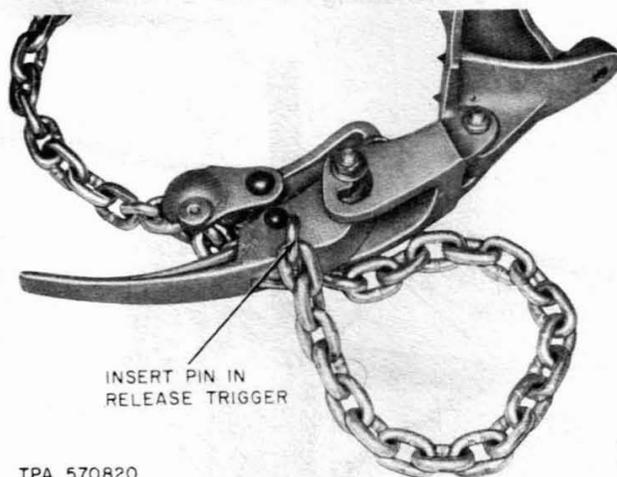
4. PRECAUTIONS

4.01 The weight placed on the pole platform shall be limited to *one craftsman* and the tools



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Fig. 5—Open Position



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Fig. 6—Closed Position

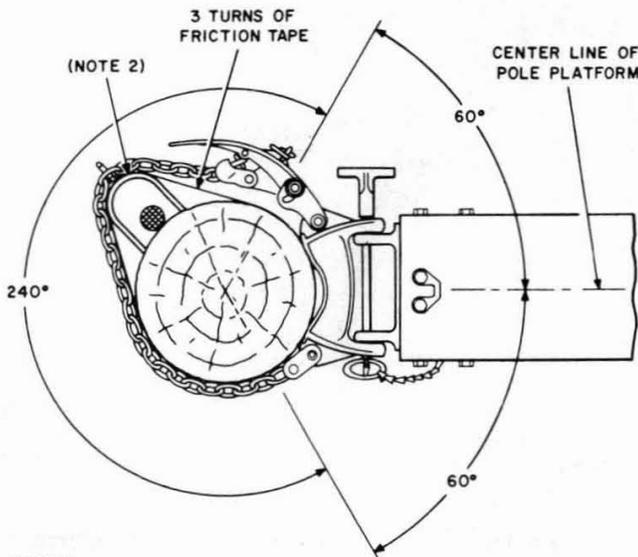
and materials needed for operation by him. The weight shall **not exceed** 400 pounds.

4.02 The body belt and safety strap shall be used when placing or removing the platform and when working on the platform. When working on the platform, the free end of the safety strap shall be passed through the other Dee ring before attaching the other snap to the suspension strand with the exception of the D, E, and F Body Belts which may have both snap hooks engaged in the same Dee ring.

- 4.03** Do not place a ladder against the platform.
- 4.04** Do not guy the platform with ropes. However, if desired, a slack line may be fastened between the end of the platform and the suspension strand.
- 4.05** Tools or materials shall not be placed on the platform. They should be supported from the suspension strand in approved containers.
- 4.06** Solder pots and paraffin pots shall not be used while working on the platform.
- 4.07** In fastening the platform on a pole, *the locking chain should never be tightened against telephone, power, or other foreign plant placed vertically on the pole* without the protection afforded by a B Riser Protector. It shall be fastened as follows:

- (a) The B Riser Protector shall be installed over a telephone company cable, or a vertical run of foreign plant at the point of contact of the platform's locking chain, to protect against the tightening action of the chain.
- (b) A single B Riser Protector may be placed over several risers if they are close enough together to be fully protected. Otherwise when there is more than one riser on the pole do **not** use a pole platform.

(c) Pole platforms shall **not** be used if the riser is less than 60 degrees away on either side from the center line of the desired working position as shown in Fig. 7, or if the brace foot would rest against or touch the vertical run.



NOTES:

1. DO NOT USE POLE PLATFORM IF RISER IS WITHIN 60° OF PLATFORM'S CENTER LINE.
2. USE THE B RISER PROTECTOR OVER VERTICAL RISER IN 240° SEGMENT.

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Fig. 7—Use of B Riser Protector

5. INSTALLATION

5.01 Install the platform as follows:

- (1) Attach a splicer's aerial handline, a B Aerial Handline, or a 3/8-inch or 1/2-inch manila rope at the balance point of the platform using a bowline as shown in Fig. 8.
- (2) Pass the free end of the rope over the strand, or fasten the handline hook to the strand and raise the platform. When the platform is at the desired height, lock the B Aerial Handline or tie the free end of the rope to the pole. In the case of a stepped pole, tie the rope to the pole step on the opposite side of the pole from the platform.
- (3) Steady the platform at the desired position with one hand and pass the locking chain around the pole and over the B Riser Protector, if needed (Fig. 9). To keep the chain from



Fig. 8—Attaching Platform to Handline

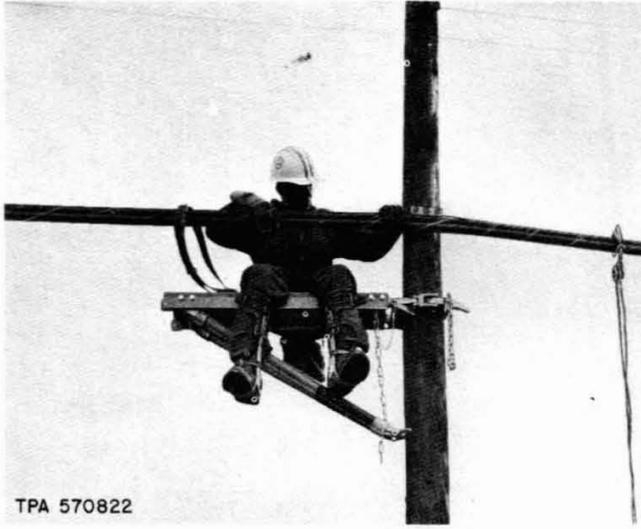


Fig. 9—Attaching Platform to Pole

slipping down the pole, place a link in the socket of the tightener and lock the chain in place as described in 3.01 through 3.03.

- (4) Make certain that the pole brace chain is extended and that the pole brace has a good anchorage on the pole.
- (5) Remove handline from platform.

5.02 The pole platform may be positioned so that the craftsman can either sit (Fig. 10) or stand (Fig. 11) while performing his work.



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Fig. 10—Sitting Position



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Fig. 11—Standing Position

5.03 To remove the platform, reverse the procedure previously outlined. ***The body belt and safety strap must be used while performing this operation.***

6. MAINTENANCE

6.01 The platform shall be visually inspected before each use for cracks in the channel or board, loose bolts or fittings, and worn or cracked hardware. The links of the locking chain shall be inspected for cracks.

6.02 Platforms with any visible defects shall not be used. Any unsafe condition shall be immediately referred to your supervisor.

6.03 When worn, the safety tread on the top surface of the channels or board may be resurfaced with Chance Safety Tread available in dark green for B Pole Platforms and in light grey for C Pole Platforms. Detailed application instructions are included with each can.