

## Chapter 2 - R.P. EQUIPMENT

(Completely revised)

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## Introduction

1. The R.P. installation of this aircraft consists of two alternatives, one in which rockets are fired from launcher rails mounted under each outer wing (*Mod. 227, 228 and 229*) and the other in which rockets are fired from batteries fitted to the outboard pylons (*Mod. 667, 1291, 1292 and 1293*). For details of the electrical circuits refer to Book 2 and for detailed information on rocket projectiles in general refer to A.P.2802A, Vol. 1.

## Launcher rail installation

## Launcher rails

2. The rocket projectiles are carried either singly or in tiers of up to three on each of four sets of launcher rails under each outer wing. The launcher rails are identified as rails A, B, C and D on each wing, rail A being outboard. The launcher rails are located on the underside of the wings as follows:—

Launcher rail A—outboard of rib R and across rib S.

Launcher rail B—between nose rib Q and rib R (*across main spar, necessitating the removal of the outboard pylon*

*before the installation of the rail can be effected*).

Launcher rail C—between nose rib N and interspar rib Q (*across junction of nose rib P and interspar rib P with main spar*).

Launcher rail D—between nose rib L and nose rib N.

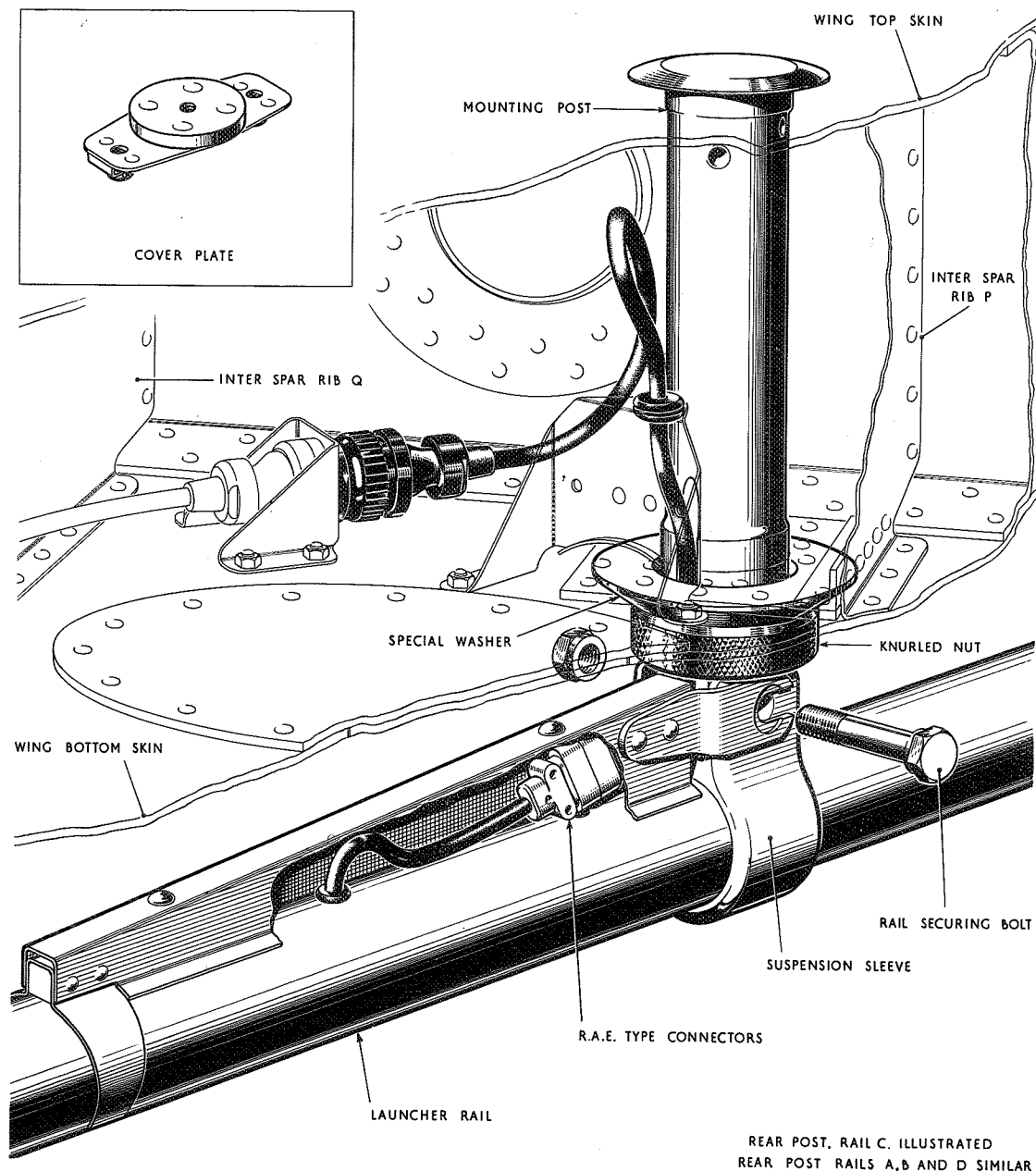
## Mounting posts

3. Each launcher rail is attached to a pair of mounting posts which are themselves attached to the wing structure. The mounting posts are of tubular structure and have a top fitting which is machined at an angle to conform with the contour of the upper surface of the wing. Each post passes through the wing structure and terminates on the undersurface of the wing with an eye-end to which the launcher rail is attached by means of a high-tensile steel bolt. The rear posts are grooved at their lower ends to permit the assembly of the electrical cables which run from the wings to the rails. The posts are secured to the wing by means of a knurled bronze nut which screws on to the threaded portion above the eye-end. The bronze securing nuts

are machined to a spherical shape at one end to fit into a corresponding recess in a light alloy washer interposed between the nut and wing skin, thus allowing the washer to align itself with the undersurface of the wing. Each bronze nut must be hand-tightened only.

4. Owing to the variation in depth and contour of the aerofoil, the posts, four front and four rear for each wing, are not interchangeable, either port or starboard, or with each other on their respective wings (*para. 7, sub-para. 1*). A cable cover is attached to each rear post and extends rearwards to clamp over the launcher rail. These cable covers are interchangeable.

5. Cover plates are provided to seal the holes vacated by the mounting posts when this R.P. installation is removed. The plates, which are provided with captive nuts, lie flush with the outer surface of the wing when bolted in position. A blind hole in each plate is threaded (*2 B.A.*) to receive a piece of screwed rod, or bolt, which is used to insert the plate into the post hole during the fitting



**Fig. 1 Launcher rail attachment**  
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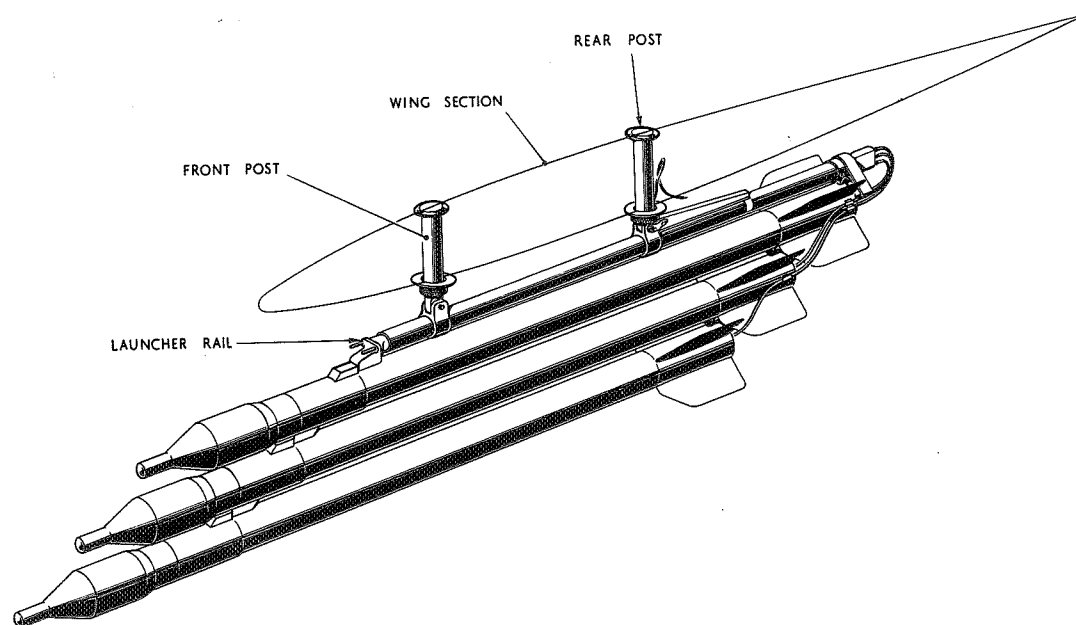


Fig. 2 R.P. assembly

of the plate. It also serves to hold the plate in position while the securing bolts are fitted, after which, the bolt, or screwed rod, is removed.

#### Attachment of removable parts

6. The front and rear mounting posts, launcher rails and the cable covers comprise all the removable parts. Before commencing to install the mounting posts, the cover plates (*para. 5*), which normally seal the mounting post holes in the wings, must be removed and their attachment bolt holes sealed by using the existing bolts with nuts (*Part No. A.G.S.2002C1*) and washers (*Part No. S.P.16C*) in lieu of the captive nuts on the plates. If the outboard pylon is fitted, and it is desired to install R.P. s, this pylon must be removed and the necessary blanking plates fitted in lieu (*Sect. 3, Chap. 2*).

7. When assembling the mounting posts :—

- (1) Ensure that the mounting posts are positioned correctly. (*The posts are engraved for port and starboard and have a numeral to indicate their respective rails. Similar indication is stencilled adjacent to the post holes on both the upper and lower surfaces of the wings*).

#### MOUNTING POST MARKING

POST		RAIL
FRONT	REAR	
PORT 1	P 5	PORT A
PORT 2	P 6	PORT B
PORT 3	P 7	PORT C
PORT 4	P 8	PORT D
STBD 1	S 5	STBD A
STBD 2	S 6	STBD B
STBD 3	S 7	STBD C
STBD 4	S 8	STBD D

- (2) Before assembly of the rear posts, pull the electrical cables down through the apertures in the wings. These cables are stowed in the wings, when R.P. posts are not fitted, with the cable plug fitted into spring clips mounted on brackets adjacent to the rear post apertures.
- (3) Before fitting the posts, lubricate the thread on the post, the spherical end of the nut and the spherical recess in the washer with grease XG-278.
- (4) Tighten the bronze securing nuts by hand only.
- (5) Fit the launcher rails to the eye-ends of the posts, using the special high-tensile steel bolts provided.
- (6) Make electrical connection by fitting the cable plugs into the sockets of the launcher (*as shown in fig. 1*). Fit the cable guards, which are secured by the rear post rail securing bolt.
- (7) When assembly is complete, use 22 s.w.g. non-corrodible wire to specification D.T.D. 189 or 161 to lock the knurled nuts.

In the case of the front post, the wire is passed through the hole located between the threaded portion of the post and the eye-end. In the case of the rear post, the wire is passed through the hole in the end of the high-tensile steel bolt that secures the rail to the eye-end, the wire also serving to lock the nut of the rail securing bolt in the eye-end. The nut of the rail securing bolt in the eye-end of the front post must be locked with a split pin.

#### Rocket battery installation

8. In this installation the rockets are carried in battery containers which are secured to the outboard pylons. For information regarding the fitting of these rocket batteries to the pylons, refer to Sect. 2, Chap. 2.

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### R.P. controls

9. Controls for rocket firing consist of a master switch (*BOMB—R.P.*) located on a panel below the port glare shield, a mode switch (*3 RIP—3 SALVO—PODS*), a pod switch (*PORT—ALL*) and a salvo selector switch (2, 4, 6, 8) located on a panel to the port of the gyro gunsight. The firing push-button switch is located under a flap on the top of the control column handgrip. The switch settings for the various modes of fire are as follows:—

(1) *3" Ripple (rail launchers)*

Master switch—R.P.

Mode switch—3 RIP.

Salvo selector switch—2, 4, 6 or 8 as required.

(2) *3" Salvo (rail launchers)*

Master switch—R.P.

Mode switch—3 SALVO.

Salvo selector switch—2, 4, 6 or 8 as required.

(3) *Rocket battery*

Master switch—R.P.

Mode switch—PODS.

Pod switch—PORT or ALL as required.

The rockets are fired by lifting the safety flap at the top of the control column handgrip and depressing the push-button switch uncovered by the safety flap.

### Armament safety break

10. An armament safety plug, located in the port stub wing, is accessible via a small hinged door fitted in a panel under the wing, just forward of the main spar pin joint. The door is provided with a toggle fastener to facilitate access. The plug, attached to a bracket by a nylon cord on which is fitted a bag and a red warning pennant, must be removed before R.P. s are fitted and should only be put back immediately prior to take-off. When the plug is removed, place the plug in the stowage bag and allow the bag and

pennant to hang below the door. On replacing the armament safety plug, stow the pennant and when fitting the plug ensure that the red paint mark on the body of the plug is aligned with a similar mark on the body of the socket. If this precaution is not observed damage will be caused to the plug.

### Note . . .

*The pennant must not be removed from the stowage bag.*

### Jettisoning of stores

11. Rocket batteries may be jettisoned from the pylons by setting the fuze switch to the DEFUZE position and pressing either the jettison switch on the panel below the port glare shield or the switch on the panel to the left of the gunsight.

### Re-arming

12. The procedure for re-arming is given in A.P.2802A, Vol. 1.

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