

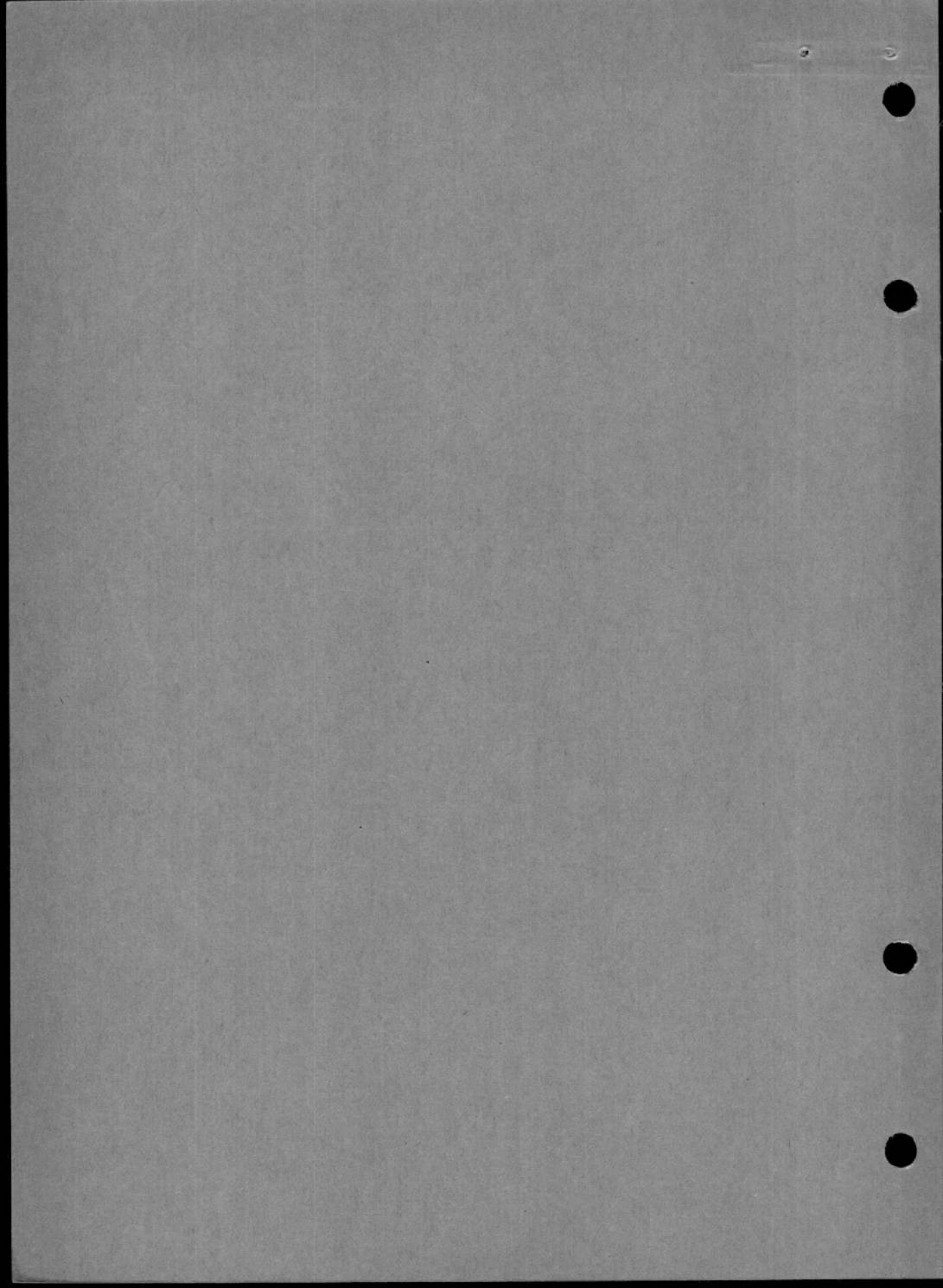
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CHAPTER

1

FUSELAGE



CHAPTER I

FUSELAGE

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General

1. The fuselage is constructed of balsa, sandwiched between ply skins, with four spruce bulkheads interposed throughout its length (see fig. 1). The fuselage is oval in section, tapering in plan and elevation from bulkhead 3 to the nose. It is built in two halves, and joined along the top and bottom centre lines. The forward face of No. 1 bulkhead is armoured and carries the nose wheel unit bracing structure. The cockpit, access to which is gained by a retractable footstep in the port side

of the fuselage, is enclosed between bulkheads 1 and 2 by a canopy. Bulkheads 3 and 4 are reinforced by plate fittings and steel tubes for the wing attachment fittings. Bulkhead 4 also carries the engine mounting (see Sect. 8).

Doors

2. Two removable gun-bay doors covering the ventral bay, provide access to the centre fuel tank and the 20 mm. guns.

Canopy

3. The canopy is a "tear-drop" design, made of moulded Perspex with a light alloy frame (see Sect. 5). It is made to slide fore and aft by a winding handle on the right-hand side of the cockpit. The windscreen and side panels are of the Triplex dry air sandwich type.

Covering

4. The fuselage outer skin is covered with madapolam.

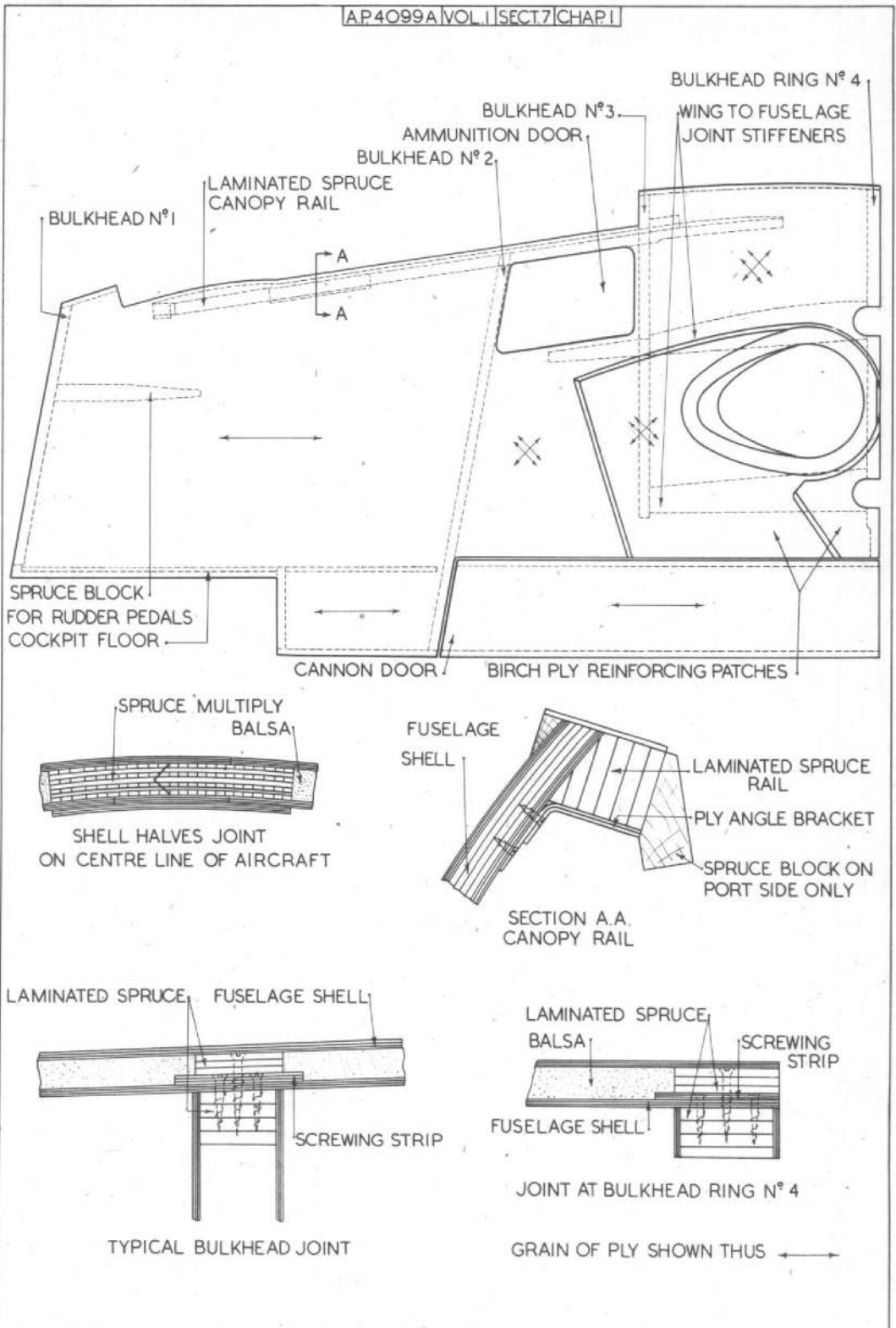


FIG 1 **FUSELAGE CONSTRUCTION** FIG 1



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