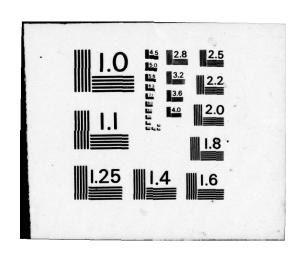
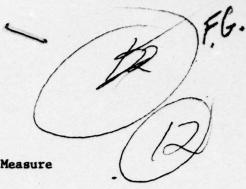
EAGLE-PICHER INDUSTRIES INC JOPLIN MO COUPLES DEPT F/G 17/2.1 MANUFATURING METHODS AND TECHNOLOGY MEASURE FOR PLASTIC HOUSING--ETC(U) AD-A034 117 SEP 76 D V GORDON DAAB05-73-C-2081 UNCLASSIFIED NL 10F2 4DA034II7





FINAL REPORT

Manufacturing Methods and Technology Measure

For Plastic Housings For

C-2328-B-GRA-39 and C-2329-B-GRA-39 Radio

AMC Contract # DAAB05-73-C-2081

Placed By

U. S. Army Electronics Command

Production Division, Procurement and Production Directorate

DRSEL-PP-I-PI-1

Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey 07703

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MANUFACTURING METHODS AND TECHNOLOGY MEASURE FOR PLASTIC HOUSINGS FOR C-2328-B-GRA-39 and C-2329-B-GRA-39

RADIO

FINAL REPORT

September, 1976

Object of study; Establish a pilot production capability for producing plastic cases for Army Radio Sets - AN-GRA-39B

AMC Contract # DAAB05-73-C-2081

Placed By

U. S. Army Electronics Command
Production Division, Procurement and Production Directorate
DRSEL-PP-I-PI-1

Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey 07703

Prepared By

Dale V. Gordon for Eagle-Picher Industries, Inc. Electronics Division Couples Department Joplin, Missouri 64801 ACCESSION FOR

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the work done to prove feasibility of mass production of a non-metallic housing for the C-2328-B-GRA-39 and C-2329-B-GRA-39 Radio Set. Selection of materials, manufacturing methods, redesign of the housings and design tools are described. Cross comparisons are made and production techniques are described in detail. Quality Control procedures are included.

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GLOSSARY

TERM	REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION
Pre-Preg	Page 4	A term given to fiberglass cloth in
		which the resin is introduced into
		the cloth at manufacture rather than
		added in separate step during the
		lay-up operation.
Lexan 101	Page 5	A trade name given to polycarbonate
		by the General Electric Company.
Back Pressure	Page 46	A term used in the injection mold
		industry to specify a pressure in
		the cylinder to insure an accurate
		temperature control of the molten
		resin. No pressure would result in
		large temperature gradients.
Pile-Ups	Page 46	A term used to describe an overflow
		or clogging effect when the molded
		part is ejected.
Plastication	Page 55	A term used in the injection mold
		industry to describe specified varying
		temperatures of the molten resin
		within the molding machine cylinder.
Short Shots	Page 56	A term used by the injection mold
		industry to describe incomplete filling
		of the mold cavity during the molding
		cycle.

PURPOSE

The primary objective of this project is to perform the production engineering required to permit the replacement of aluminum housings with molded plastic housings for the AN/GRA-39B Radio Telephone.

Major accomplishments which will result from the project are as follows:

- To provide the engineering effort required to establish a capability for pilot line production of the following AN/GRA-39B Radio Housing parts.
 - A. Panel (SM-D-450185) C. Case (SM-D-450170)
 - B. Panel (SM-D-450179) D. Cover (SM-D-456214)
- Determination, design and fabrication of special tooling, special test equipment, and prototype machines for the pilot line.
- To prepare and revise as necessary a Management Evaluation Program.
- Application of Quality Control Procedures including Quality
 Control Checks of pertinent points of manufacture.
- To design, fabricate and test engineering samples for design approval.
- To fabricate and test First Article Samples using pilot line equipment and tooling referred to in 2 above.
- 7. To perform a Pilot Production Run of 25 parts each to demonstrate the capability of producing 20 radio housings per 8 hour day.

- 8. To prepare test reports for engineering samples, First Article samples and Pilot Production units including reworked and rejected items.
- 9. To submit Monthly Letter Reports, Formal Quarterly Reports and a Final Report covering the entire period of the project. Also a step by step procedure of manufacturing instructions, specifications, information and other data will be provided.
- 10. To prepare a General Report on Step II in accordance with paragraph 3.5.3 of Electronics Command Industrial Preparedness Procurement Requirements No. 15, Revised 3 August 1971.

I. HISTORY

A. Introduction and Summary

This Manufacturing Methods and Technology Measure has been conducted over the past three (3) years. Eagle-Picher has been involved in similar programs, the most notable being Contract DAAB05-70-C-3110. This program involved the design and development of several standard non-metallic battery cases for USAECOM. Therefore, this program was not the first of its kind for Eagle-Picher. Other similar contracts which have been done for USAECOM are: DA-28-043-AMC-02512(E), a Development and Manufacture of Advanced Engineering Models for the BB-607/U Nickel-Cadmium Battery Assembly. A similar battery container and parts were developed on Contract DA-28-043-AMC-01508(E) for the BB-610/U Nickel-Cadmium Battery Assembly. The standard sealed battery case has evolved from USAECOM Contracts DA-28-043-AMC-02361(E) and DAABO7-69-C-0406 for battery assemblies which utilize cylindrical type sealed nickel-cadmium battery cells. These programs have included for example, the BB-630/U and the BB-655/U. The metalair standard case and transit cover have evolved from work on USAECOM development contracts for metal-air batteries BA-524/U through BA-528/U.

All of these batteries, and therefore standard cases will interface with equipment designed in accordance with the new standard line configuration, USAECOM Drawing ES-D-202410.

A. Introduction and Summary (Continued)

It can therefore be seen from the above why a manufacturer of batteries is involved in the design and development of a non-metallic housing for a military radio set.

This production engineering measure has been undertaken to establish optimized manufacturing methods for production of large quantities of non-metallic housings for the GRA/39 radio set.

B. Materials and Manufacturing Method Options

Many different manufacturing techniques are available for fabrication of radio cases. Each material and each manufacturing method has specific advantages and disadvantages; therefore, the materials selected for the radio housing case were based on production rates and environmental requirements. For example, the strongest non-metallic material available for manufacturing ruggedized containers is epoxy preimpregnated fiberglass fabric, commonly referred to as "pre-preg", which is manufacturing in a semi-cured state. This material can be procured per MIL-R-9300. After hand lay-up, the material is cured at elevated temperatures, during which time, pressure is applied to develop the ultimate strength of the material. Vacuum bag molding can be used or matched metal molds can be designed and fabricated for this process. Vacuum bag molding has the advantage of low cost tooling. It is especially applicable to low quantities. Its major disadvantage is lack of tolerance control on the vacuum bag surface and the necessity for considerable cutting, trimming and finishing. Also, the ultimate strength of the material is not fully developed because B. Materials and Manufacturing Method Options (Continued)
of the low pressure attained by vacuum. Higher pressure molding
is available using matched metal molds of high temperature aluminum
or steel. Matched metal tools are more expensive than vacuum
bag molding tools but precise dimensional control is attained. Also
piece part price is reduced by the use of matched metal molds as
less hand operations are required for finishing of the resulting
part.

Another type of fiberglass molding method is available to the battery case designer. This technique is commonly referred to as premix molding. In this process, short random strands of fiberglass are interspersed within epoxy material. A pre-weighed amount of the premix is introduced into matched metal molds followed by curing at elevated temperatures and pressures. Epoxy premix molding is an extension of polyester premix molding commonly used in many fiberglass applications (for example, manufacturing of fiberglass boats). Epoxy compounding is more complex than polyester compounding and there are more manufacturing steps to be taken using epoxies in order to attain high quality parts. Polyester molding has not been considered for alkali battery cases because of its lack of resistance to potassium hydroxide solutions. Premix molding is more economical than pre-preg molding as the hand lay-up operation is eliminated. Some strength is sacrificed, however, because of the lack of continuous fibers in the resulting part. However, the material is ideally suited for smaller parts and complex geometries.

B. Materials and Manufacturing Method Options (Continued)

The main problem with the fiberglass material is that, the weight savings are not appreciable and the method of manufacture is time consuming and costly.

Injection molding was selected as the method of manufacture for the radio housings. Injection molded parts are definitely the lowest cost type. Injection molding materials are generally lower strength than epoxy fiberglass materials that have been discussed above. However, test results using the selected material indicate that injected molded parts from polycarbonate Lexan 101-SE (Lexan 101 exceed fiberglass impact strength) material was utilized because of its all around capability. This material is an unfilled polycarbonate, self extinguishing material. This compounding provides sufficient flexibility to give extremely strong parts. Various compounds of polycarbonate are available which provide a wide range of capability. Another thermoplastic which has been considered for the radio cases is PVC (Polyvinylchloride). This material, commonly known for its use in high pressure water lines, has recently been perfected for applications demanding high impact strength. This material has unique strength properties as it retains the strength at high and low temperatures. Some informal testing was conducted on this material, and test results indicated this material comparable to the selected polycarbonate. More extensive testing might have been done had the material been on the market soon enough.

C. Design Effort

Parts design was accomplished in three (3) different phases of the PEM, original concepts, engineering models and first article testing. Modifications were performed in these phases as the need became apparent as is described in this section.

Hardware was submitted in three (3) different phases for approval. These submissions were 1) Engineering Samples - Two (2) models of each component with physical charactersitics as close to the final product as possible were submitted for approval. The purpose of these samples was to assure that there was no basic design conflict for their intended use, 2) The first article test samples were tested per SCS-458. Upon successful completion, three (3) samples were submitted to verify successful completion of the first article tests. Modifications required in order to pass the first article testing are presented later in this section, 3) The purpose of the pilot production run was to demonstrate the capability of producing the required number of parts at the specified rate. Also of importance was investigating and eliminating problems which arise when starting up a production line. The pilot production line articles (25) were submitted for approval.

1. Radio Case (SM-D-435951)

The radio case changed very little during the progress of the manufacturing methods contract. All internal dimensions and tolerances remain unchanged in order to accommodate the

1. Radio Case (SM-D-435951) (Continued)

existing radio set. The wall thickness was increased to .125 in order to assure environmental requirements were maintained. Figure 1 represents the final design of the radio case. The case as in the original design is common to both the local and the remote radio set. The case is open on both the top and bottom and interfaces with the radio panel assembly and the bottom cover assembly (see Photo No. 1). The only other modification that was required was due to the increased thickness of the mounting lip on the open ends of the case. The sealing gasket for both the top panel and the bottom cover required a material of lower durometer to adequately seal the increased cross sectional area.

The material selected for the part was unfilled polycarbonate (Lexan 101). This material offers exceptional impact strength as well as good dimensional stability through the temperature ranges of -65°F to 160°F. No failures were experienced on the radio case when subjected to the extremely severe testing required by SCS-458. Item B of Photo No. 1 represents the radio case.

The manufacturing method used on the case was the injection molding process. This process is utilized where high volume with rigid dimensional accuracy and inexpensive parts are required.

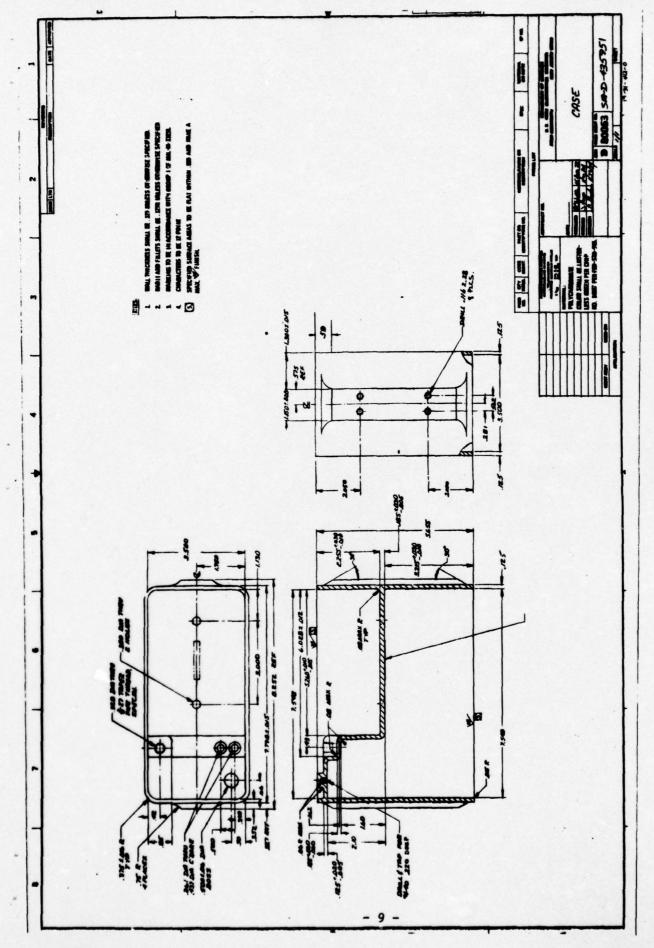


FIGURE No. 1

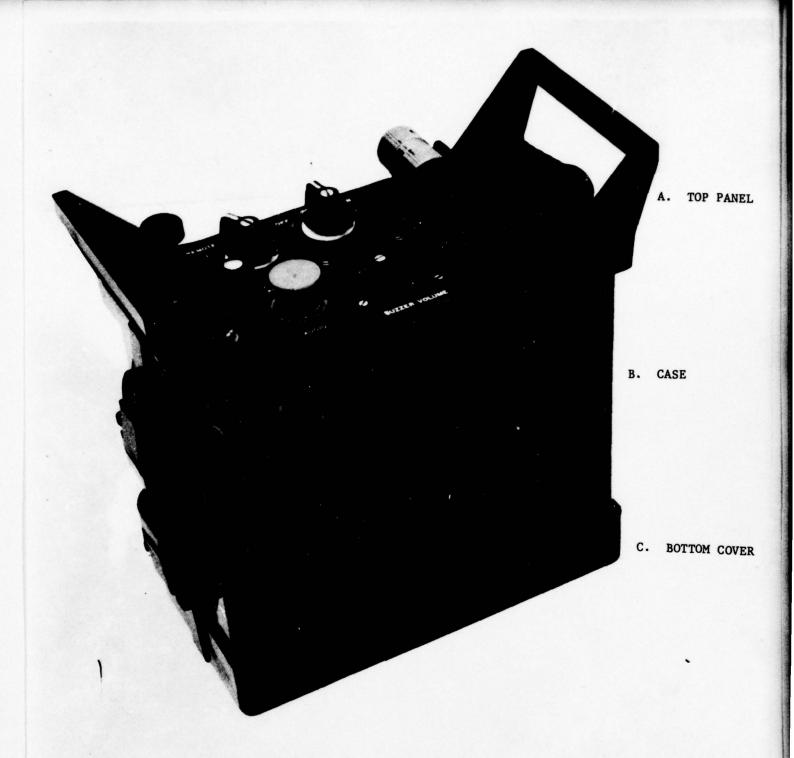


PHOTO NO. 1
GRA/39 RADIO - REMOTE
INSTALLED IN PLASTIC HOUSINGS
- 10 -

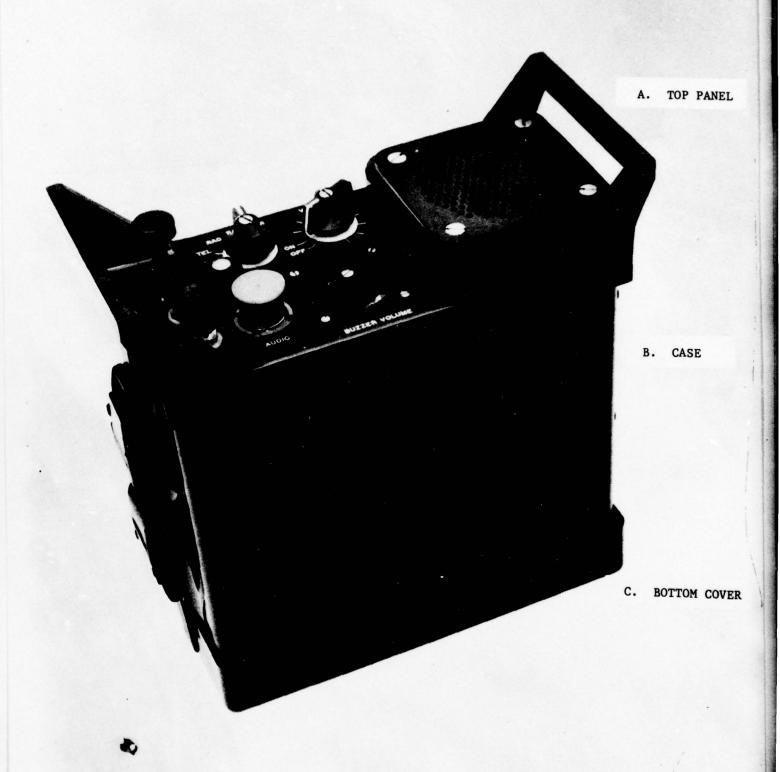


PHOTO NO. 2 GRA/39 RADIO - LOCAL INSTALLED IN PLASTIC HOUSINGS - 11 -

2. Bottom Cover

The bottom cover (Figure 2) (Item C of Photo No. 1).

The bottom cover, also is an injection molded part. The material used was polycarbonate (Lexan 101) for reasons mentioned earlier in this report.

In order to retain required regidity, a reinforcing rib was molded around the outside parameter of the cover. This rib was incorporated to check any bowing of the cover when clamped to the radio case. The increased height required to incorporate the rib was offset by reducing the height of the top panels; The assembled set is only slightly taller (less than 1/8 inch) then the original radio set and still is accommodated by the existing carrying case (cotton duck bag).

A problem was experienced during testing in regard to loosening of the strikes on the cover during the high temperature/high humidity drop test of SCS-458. The problem will be discussed in detail in sub-heading "F" of this section.

3. Top Panel (Remote) (Figure 3)

The top panels were by far the most complex parts in regard to redesign. The injection molds for these parts were difficult and time consuming to produce, however once perfected, little trouble was experienced in regard to molding or piece parts production.

FIGURE NO. 2

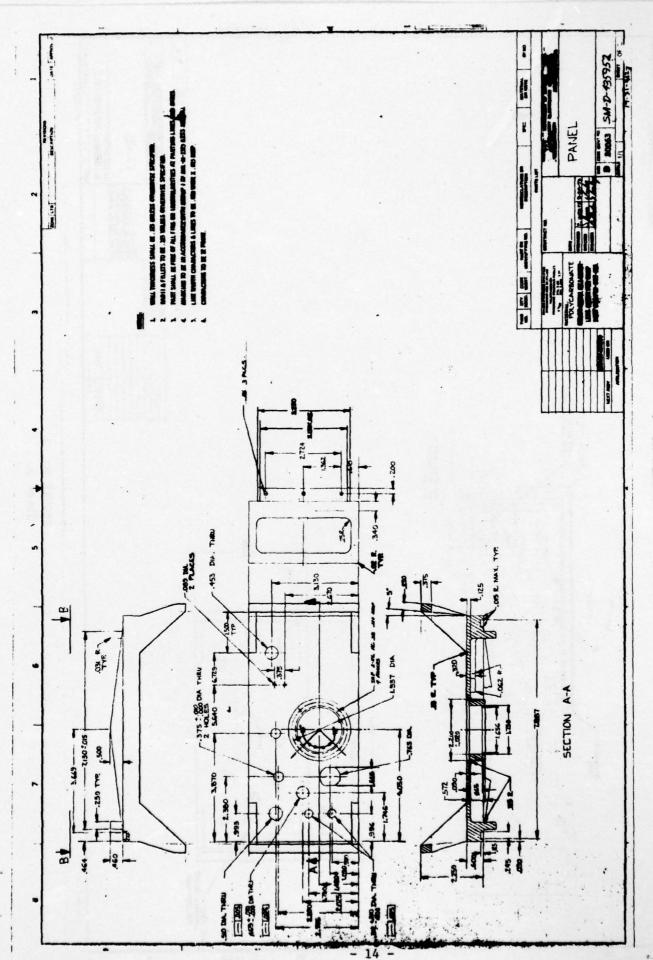


FIGURE NO. 3 Sheet 1

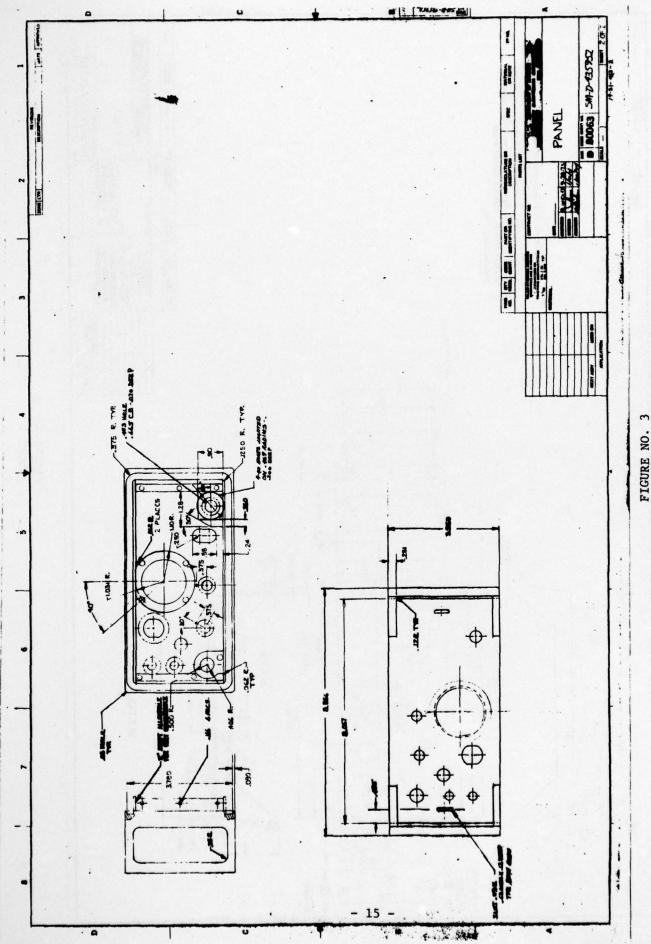


FIGURE NO. 3 Sheet 2

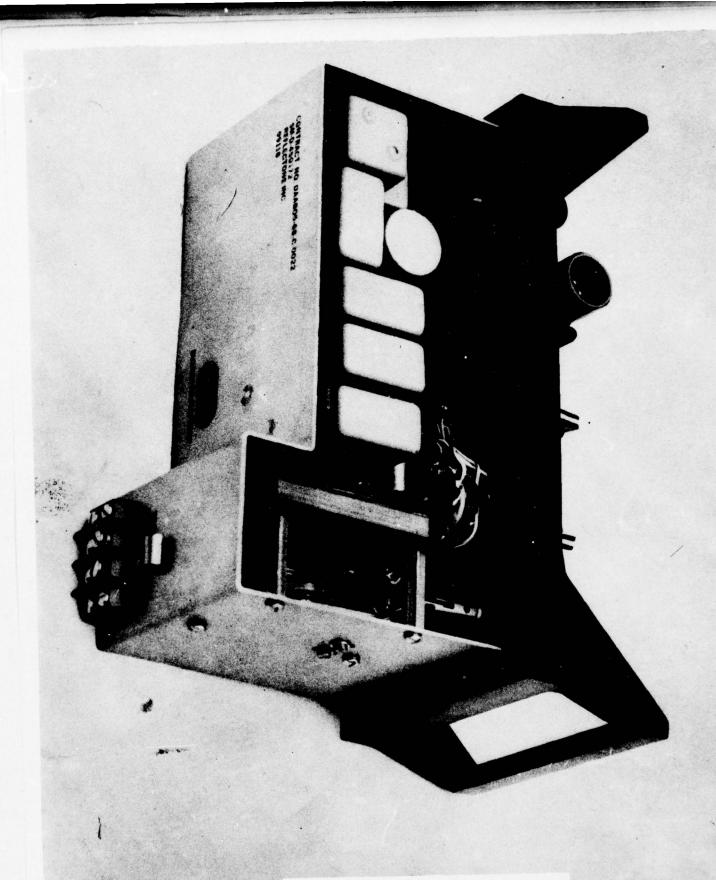


PHOTO NO. 3
TOP PANEL (REMOTE)
RADIO CHASSIS INSTALLED
- 16 -

3. Top Panel (Remote) (Continued)

The most obvious redesign factor of the top panels (see Photo No. 2, Item A) was that the carrying handles were molded into the panel instead of being attached by screws as was done in the original design (metal housings). This feature is probably the most significant design improvement made in the redesign. The redesigned panels offer improved ruggedness, less manufacturing or assembly operations and therefore, lower cost than the existing metal housing. Additionally, the weight savings on this panel alone was cut in half.

Some problems were experienced in the high heat/high humidity drop test of SCS-458, again in regard to the loosening of hardware. This problem, as on the bottom cover, will be discussed in detail in sub-paragraph "F" of this section.

The material used for this panel was the same grade of polycarbonate as mentioned earlier in this section for the cover and case.

4. Top Panel (Local) (Figure 4)

The top panel of the local unit is very similar to the remote unit and therefore, the same manufacturing, assembly and test problems existed. Further discussion of this part would offer only a repeat of the above. See Item "A" of Photo No.

2.

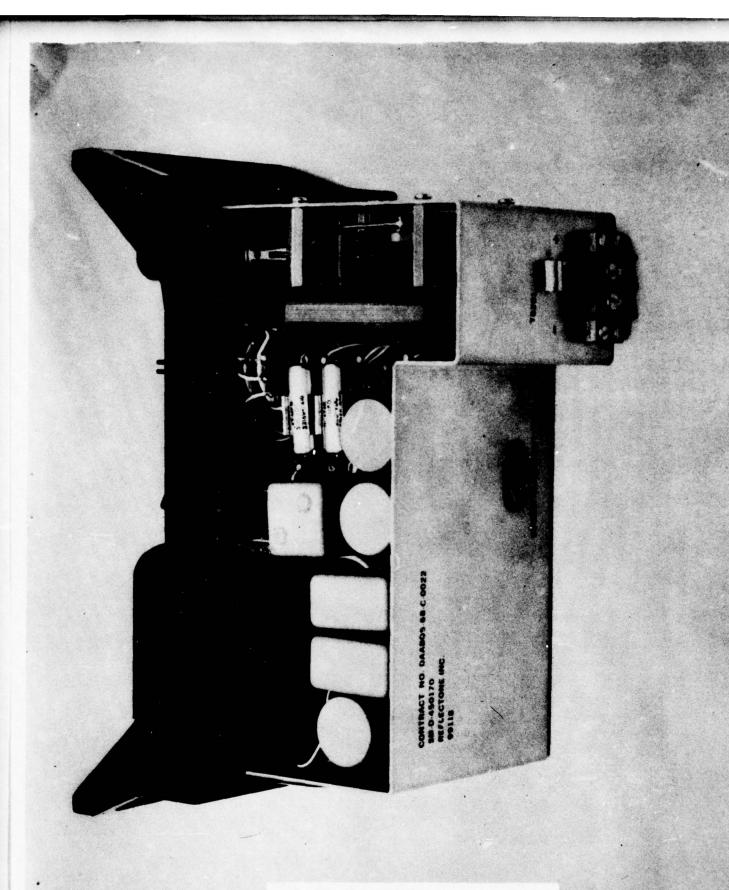


PHOTO NO. 4
TOP PANEL (LOCAL)
RADIO CHASSIS INSTALLED
- 18 -

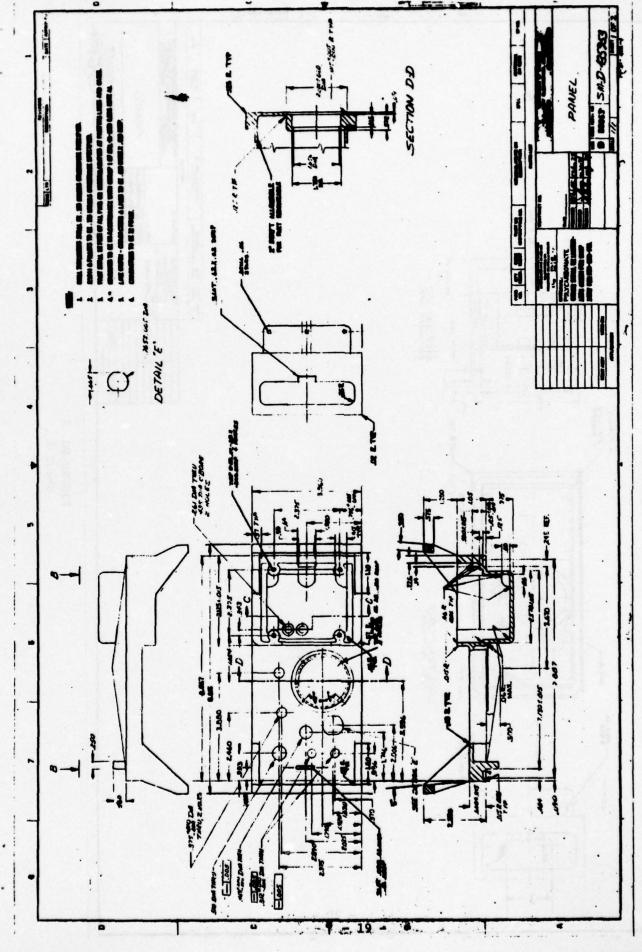


FIGURE NO. 4 Sheet 1

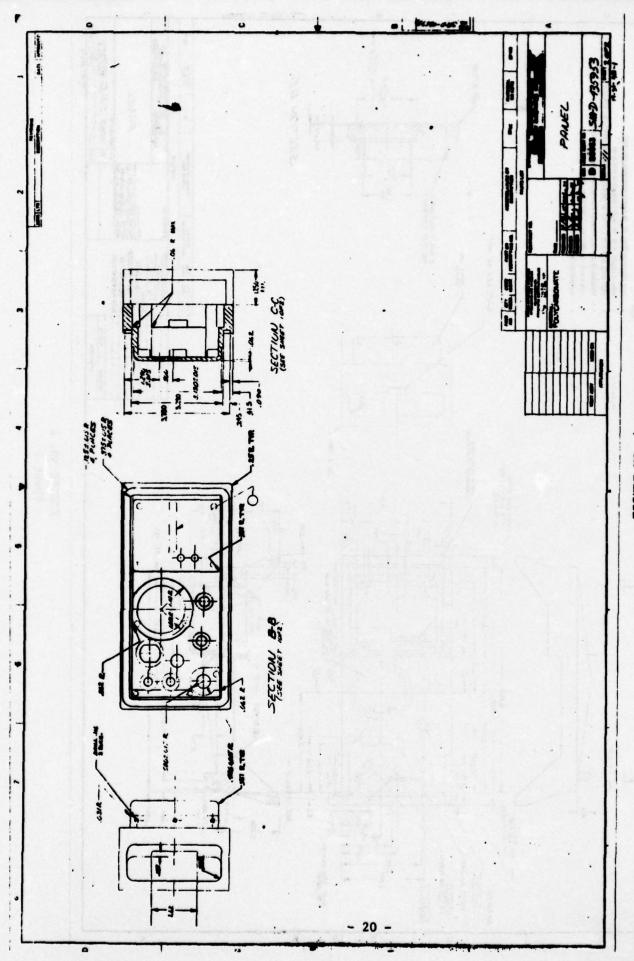


FIGURE NO. 4 Sheet 2

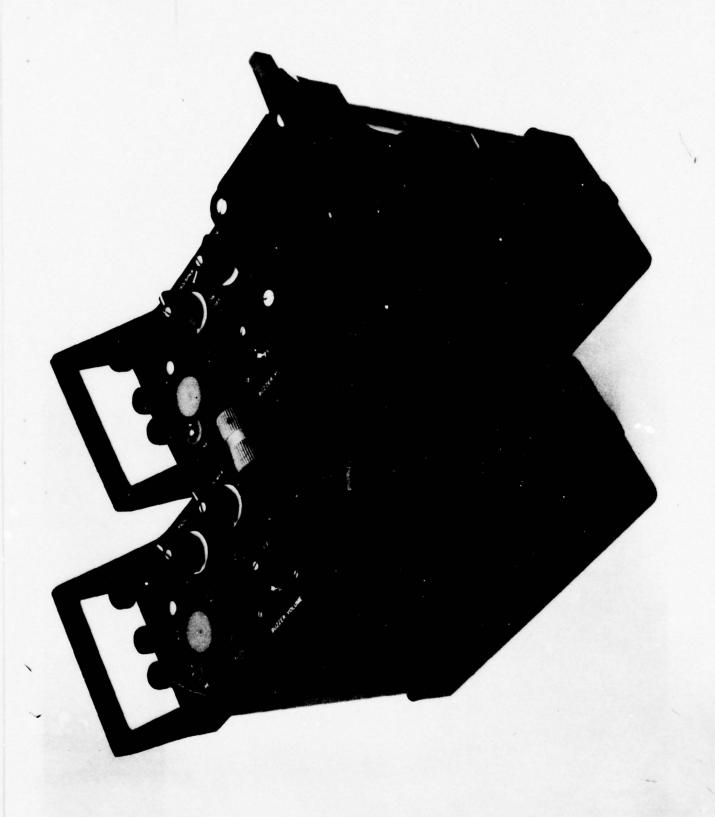


PHOTO NO. 5 GRA-39 RADIO SET INSTALLED IN PLASTIC HOUSING - 21 -

D. Quality Assurance

1. Introduction

Quality Assurance Measures were performed as parts were received by Eagle-Picher's Quality Control Plan. In addition to this initial inspection plan, the battery cases and their parts were qualified by First Article Testing and by visual sampling.

First Article Tests were conducted on the cases and components per Paragraph 4.4 of SCS-458.

The following are the test paragraphs from the Acceptance

Test Report indicating applicable testing for each article.

- a. External and internal dimensions of case, covers and insertable assemblies, when such dimensions affect insertion of items.
- b. Dimensions of cavities, when such dimensions affect insertion of items.
- c. Location of matches or fasteners on separate parts of assemblies which must mate, such as cases, covers and mountings.
- d. Location of components, fasteners and mountings.

2. Standard Test Conditions

Unless otherwise specified herein, all measurement and tests shall be made at a temperature between 68°F and 95°F, ambient atmospheric pressure and relative humidity.

3. Test Equipment and Inspection Facilities

Test equipment and inspection facilities shall be of sufficient accuracy, quality and quantity to permit performance of the required inspection. The contractor shall establish calibration of test equipment to the satisfaction of the Government inspector.

4. Applicable Documents

- a. SCS-458
- b. MIL-R-55154B
- c. MIL-STD-810B

6.1 Temperature Cycling

6.1.1 Test Equipment

a) Temperature Chamber (2), Messimer sufficient size and range to accommodate the test.

6.1.2 Test Procedure

The temperature cycling was conducted in accordance with Method 503, Procedure 1 of MIL-STD-810.

6.1.3 Test Results

At the conclusion of the test, the test samples were examined. No apparent damage was noted.

6.2 Mechanical Shock

6.2.1 Test Equipment

- a) Quick Release Drop Hook (Electronically Activated)
- b) Cradling Net
- c) Attaching Hook

6.2.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were tested in accordance with Method 516.1, Procedure II of MIL-STD-810. The test samples were dropped from a height of 48 inches for a total of 26 drops.

6.2.3 Test Results

No apparent damage resulted from the drop test.

Only minor scuffing and scraping of the housings was evident.

6.3 Bounce Test

6.3.1 Test Equipment

a) Package Tester, Type 1000-SC as made by L.A.B. Corporation, Skaneateles, New York.

6.3.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were subjected to the test of Method 514, Procedure XI of MIL-STD-810.

6.3.3 Test Results

No operation damage occurred to the radio housings during the bounce test.

6.4 Vibration

6.4.1 Test Equipment

- a) Shaker, Ling, 275A
- b) Power Supply, Ling, PP-60/80

6.4.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were subjected to the tests of Method 514, Procedure IX, Part 1, of MIL-STD-810.

6.4.3 Test Results

No operational or physical damage occurred from the vibration testing.

6.5 Immersion

6.5.1 Test Equipment

a) Immersion Tank to accommodate 36 inches of water over the upper most part of the radio housing.

6.5.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were tested in accordance with Method 512, Procedure I of MIL-STD-810.

6.5.3 Test Results

No leakage was present at conclusion of the test.

6.6 Air Seal

6.6.1 Test Equipment

- a) Vacuum Pump
- b) Shut-Off Valve
- c) Mercury Manometer, Meriam, Model 31EC10

6.6.2 Test Procedure

The test was conducted in accordance with Paragraph 4.9 of MIL-R-55154B.

6.6.3 Test Results

The radios passed the requirements of 4.9 of MIL-R-55154B.

6.7 Humidity

6.7.1 Test Equipment

a) Humidity Chamber, ATO - Model HB4127.

6.7.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were subjected to the testing required by Method 507, Procedure II of MIL-STD-810B.

6.7.3 Test Results

The radio cases passed the Humidity Test. Hardware remained secure with no loosening.

6.8 High Temperature - High Humidity Drop

6.8.1 Test Equipment

- a) Humidity Chamber, ATL Model HB4127
- b) Quick Release Hook
- c) Cradling Net

6.8.2 Test Procedure

The samples were tested in accordance with Paragraph 4.4.8 of Specification SCS-458.

6.8.3 Test Results

No failures were experienced during the drop testing of Para. 4.4.8 of SCS-458.

6.9 Low Temperature Drop

6.9.1 Test Equipment

- a) Temperature Chamber
- b) Quick-Release Hook
- c) Cradling Net

6.9.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were subjected to the testing of Paragraph 4.4.9 of SCS-458.

6.9.3 Test Results

The test samples did not sustain any damage which would impair the function of the housings during the drop test.

6.10 Altitude

6.10.1 Test Equipment

a) Altitude Chamber

6.10.2 Test Procedure

The test was performed in accordance with Method 500, Procedure I of MIL-STD-810B.

6.10.3 Test Results

The radio housings sustained no damage as a result of the altitude test.

6.11 Fungus Test

Fungus testing was not performed due to contract modification.

6.12 Salt Fog

6.12.1 Test Equipment

a) Salt Fog Chamber - Industrial Filter and Mfg.Co., Model 411.1 ABC.

6.12.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were tested in accordance with Method 509, Procedure I of MIL-STD-810B.

6.12.3 Test Results

The housings sustained no damage or deterioration due to the salt fog test.

6.13 Rain

6.13.1 Test Equipment

a) Humidity Chamber (Modified), ATL, Model HB4127.

6.13.2 Test Procedure

The testing was performed in accordance with Method 506, Procedure I of MIL-STD-810.

6.13.3 Test Results

The housings showed no signs of leakage after the rain test.

6.14 Sand and Dust

6.14.1 Test Equipment

a) Sand and Dust Chamber, Standard Model 1195.

6.14.2 Test Procedure

The test was performed in accordance with Method 510, Procedure I of MIL-STD-810.

6.14.3 Test Results

The housings passed the sand and dust test. No sand or dust penetrated the housings. All controls remained operable.

6.15 Low Temperature - Non-Operating

6.15.1 Test Equipment

a) Temperature Chamber - Conrad

6.15.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were tested in accordance with MIL-STD-810, Method 502, Procedure I.

6.15.3 Test Results

No apparent damage resulted from the test.

6.16 High Temperature - Non-Operating

6.16.1 Test Equipment

a) Temperature Chamber - Messimer

6.16.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were subjected to the testing of MIL-STD-810, Procedure II, Method 501.

6.16.3 Test Results

No damage to the housings resulted from the high temperature - non-operating test.

6.17 Sunshine

6.17.1 Test Equipment

a) Incondesant Spot Lamp - G. E.

6.17.2 Test Procedure

The samples were subjected to simulated sunshine in accordance with MIL-STD-810, Method 505, Procedure I.

6.17.3 Test Results

No fading, cracking or other deterioration was apparent as a result of the test.

6.18 Flammability

6.18.1 Test Equipment

a) Propane Torch

6.18.2 Test Procedure

The test was performed on a representative housing in accordance with Paragraph 4.4.18 of SCS-458.

6.18.3 Test Results

The housing after being subjected to an open

flame for a minimum of 15.0 seconds, extinguished immediately

upon the removal of the flame.

- 6.19 <u>Electromagnetic Testing</u>

 Deleted from specification for this program.
- 6.20 Weight
- 6.20.1 Test Equipment
 - a) Scales Toledo, Model 3710, Accuracy + 1.0

gram.

6.20.2 Test Procedure

The test samples were inspected per Para. 3.1.2 of SCS-458.

6.20.3 Test Results

S/N 11979

Remote 6.47 Lbs.

Local 5.51 Lbs.

S/N 11980

Remote 6.48 Lbs.

Local 5.55 Lbs.

S/N 8417

Remote 6.45 Lbs.

Local 5.54 Lbs.

E. Production Run

Records were made during the PEM Program to analyze costs of piece part items and equipment. Yield rates were also maintained for each of the four (4) parts manufactured. Table I summarizes materials selection, material physical properties and manufacturing methods.

Table II summarizes cost comparisons between the new plastic housings and the original metal housings.

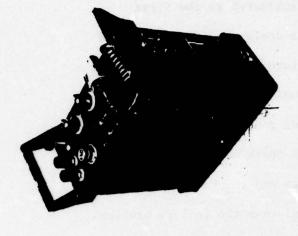
TABLE I
MATERIAL SELECTION AND PROPERTIES

WEIGHT RIG. NEW	1.05	. 50	99.	.57
WEIG ORIG.	2.90	1.38	1.82	1.57
SOURCE OF MATERIAL	General Electric	General Electric	General Electric	General
REASON FOR SELECTION	Lightweight Ruggedness Producibility High Prod. Rates Low Cost	Same as Above	Same as Above	Same as Above
MFG. METHOD.	Injection Mold	Injection Mold	Injection Mold	Injection
SELECTED MATERIAL	Lexan 101-SE	Lexan 101-SE	Lexan 101-SE	Lexan 101-SE
USAECOM NO.	SM-D-435951	SM-D-435949	19-31-412-1 SM-D-435953	SM-D-435952
E-P DWG.	19-31-412-0	19-31-412-3	19-31-412-1	19-31-412-2 SM-D-43595
PART	Case	Cover, Bottom	Panel (Local)	Panel (Remote)

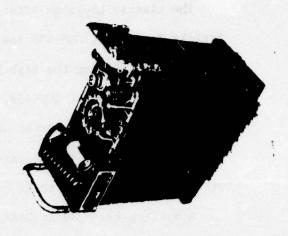
TABLE II COST ANALYSIS AND PRODUCTION RATES BEFORE AND AFTER PEM

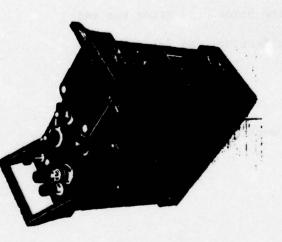
SUPPLIER	Western Controls, Wichita, Ks.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.
MFG. METHOD AFTER	Injection Mold	Injection Mold	Injection Mold	Injection Mold
METHOD BEFORE	Die Cast	Die Cast	Die Cast	Die Cast
PROD. RATE AFTER	50 Per Hr.	50 Per Hr.	50 Per Hr.	50 Per Hr
PROD. RATE BEFORE	6 Per Hr.*	6 Per Hr.*	6 Per Hr.*	6 Per Hr.*
AFTER COST PER PART	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$4.00
BEFORE COST PER PART	\$20 *	\$110*	\$20*	\$20*
AFTER COST OF EQUIP.	\$12,000	\$5,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
BEFORE COST OF EQUIP.	\$2,000*	\$2,000*	\$2,500*	\$2,500*
PART NO.	SM-D- 435951	SM-D- 435949	SM-D- 435952	SM-D- 435953
PART DESCRIPTION	Case	Cover	Panel, Remote	Panel, Local

* Estimate by Eagle-Picher

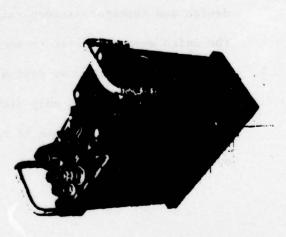


LOCAL UNIT - PLASTIC HOUSINGS





REMOTE UNIT - PLASTIC HOUSINGS



F. Design Modifications

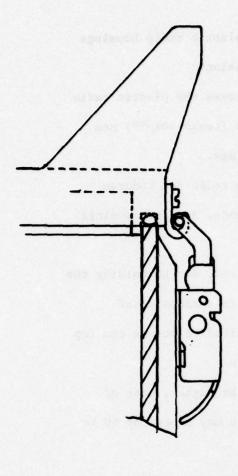
The plastic housings after being subjected to the First Article Testing of SCS-458 indicated a design modification would be required. During the high temperature/high humidity drop test of Paragraph 4.4.8 of SCS-458, the housing failed. The attaching screws which held the strike on the top panels and the bottom cover were loosened to the extent that their was no longer an effective seal between those components and the case assembly.

A meeting was held at USAECOM to discuss the failure problem.

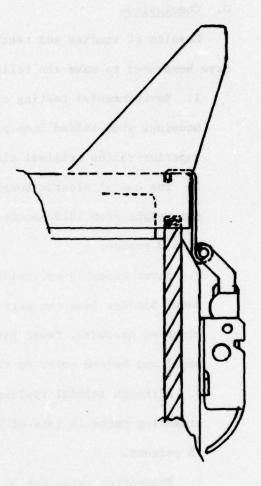
It was agreed during the meeting to delete the strikes from the panel and cover and instead incorporate an indentation in each component to accommodate a clamping device which would be part of the latch assembly. (See Figure 5 for details of this modification.)

The modification was made and one (1) radio set was retested per Paragraph 4.4.8 of SCS-458 with no further failures experienced. The new design endured the test with no visible degradation. This design was therefore incorporated on the pilot production run and the units were subjected to Acceptance Testing. No failures were encountered with the new design.

The new design not only proved much more reliable, but also was less expensive because it reduces machining and assembly operations.







NEW METHOD

FIGURE NO. 5

G. Conclusions

Results of studies and testing of the plastic radio housings have been used to make the following conclusions:

- Environmental testing of SCS-458 proves the plastic radio housings when molded from polycarbonate (Lexan 101-SE) are superior to the original aluminum housings.
- 2. The use of plastic housings for the radio set reduces the weight from 18.0 pounds to 12.0 pounds, a weight savings of 6.0 pounds.
- 3. Fewer assembly operations are required, due to molding the panel handles into the part. Also due to a redesign of clamping hardware, fewer parts are required to secure the top panel and bottom cover to the radio case.
- 4. Although initial tooling costs may be higher, cost of producing parts in lots of 2,500 or more may be cut by 50 to 75 percent.
- 5. Production rates can be improved significantly using the injection mold method of manufacture.
- 6. Part finish work is reduced to minimum, since the raw stock material is bought to the required color, eliminating the paint operation.

Discussion:

In view of the above presented data, it appears that there should be no question in regard to the superiority of the plastic housings over the existing aluminum housings.

II. PROCESS SPECIFICATIONS

A. Case (SM-D-435951)

1. Manpower and Space Required

OPERATION	DESCRIPTION	MAN MINUTES PER LOT	REQUIRED PER PART
Set-Up Time	Time Required to Get Equipment Ready for Molding	480	
Molding Time	Actual Time Needed to Mold the Part		1.3
Drilling Operations	Drill Holes for Hardware		5
Assembly	Install Latches and Labels	- <u>2011/00</u> 157	10
	TOTAL	480	16.3

MOLDER: Western Controls 2533 Southwest Street P. O. Box 1202

Wichita, Kansas 67201

Floor Space Available: Approximately 50,000 sq. ft.

Floor Space Needed: 5,0

5,000 sq. ft.

2. Equipment, Tools, Jigs and Fixtures Required

- (a) Mold 19-31-412-0
- (b) Molding Machine Reed, Model 300, Reciprocating Screw, 30 oz., 350 ton maximum for preparing resin for injection into mold.
- (c) Oven Size and temperature range to meet production requirements. Used to dry the resin previous to molding.
- (d) Scales For weighing moisture content of material.
 Type and capacity to meet application.
- (e) Drill Press Type and size dependent on production rate. (Used to drill holes as required.)
- (f) Drill Jigs For positioning holes for mounting hardware.

3. Material Required (ABS)

- (a) Polycarbonate (Unfilled)
- (b) Lexan, 101-SE (GSM)
- (c) Form Pelletized Custom Color 3015 Dk. Green

 The advantages of this material are that it is one of the easier plastics to mold and possesses excellent impact strength. The material will withstand severe impacts which may occur in shipment or in field use.

4. Molding Operations

- (a) Drying Place stock material in oven or in hopper dryer. Adjust temperature to 170 - 190°F. Dry stock material until there is less than .05 of 1% moisture by weight.
- (b) Fill hopper (if stock material was dried in an oven) with resin.
- (c) Preheat mold to 150°F.
- (d) Stabilize stock material from 435 to 475°F depending on existing conditions (plastication). This is done by the heater band elements located within the mold cylinder. Slight readjustment may be necessary as cycling of mold progresses.
- (e) Regulate nozzle temperatures not to exceed temperatures.

 of the stock material.

(f) Meter stock into cylinder and regulate temperature of stock as follows.

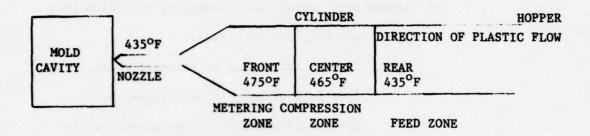


FIGURE NO. 6

- (g) Fill mold cavity and make following adjustments during cycling.
 - 1) Injection Pressure 10,000 20,000 psi.
 - 2) Shot Weight should be 476 grams.
 - 3) Regulate fill speed at 5 3/4 inches.
 - 4) Adjust screw speed to 9.9 (yellow).

NOTE: The above is a general setting. Ultimate choice of fill speed should be one that completely fills and will consistently mold satisfactory parts. Faster fill speeds can cause short shots, burning of the plastic material or weld lines.

- 5) During cycling of machine and once normal screw rpm and heater band adjustments have reached optimum operating efficiency; adjust "back pressure" to approximately 100 psi to maintain a close control over stock temperature.
- 6) Adjust mold temperature controller to cool molded part (cool down for ejection).

NOTE: Minimum cycle time or extremely fast

cool down of part is not always the

optimum length cycle. The minimum cycle

is often too sensitive to changes in am
bient temperature. Increasing cycle times

of only one or two seconds can increase

reject rates considerably.

- 7) Check part ejection system as cycling commences to insure against "pile ups".
- (h) Consult Figure No. 7 for complete molding specifications.

NOTE: The above is general information based on experience; however, "values can change with varying conditions, materials, part design, etc." The molder must make any adjustments or alterations as the molded sampling indicates necessary. Table III is provided to aid in troubleshooting molding problems.

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	TARE	OTY. PER BOX		1			EXA	CT OIY. PRODUCED

5. Machining Operations

- (a) Using drill jib 19-31-412-0, locate and drill eight hardware mounting holes per Drawing 19-31-412-0.
- (b) Top to holes inside case cavity per Drawing 19-31-412-0.

6. Assembly of Hardware

- (a) Install four (4) latches with eight (8) screws per

 Drawing in the Appendix of this report.
- (b) Install battery positioning, and identification label as required.

7. Mold Maintenance

- (a) Use dry air to blow out cooling channels.
- (b) Core and cavity areas are sprayed with commerical rust preventative.
- (c) Close mold and place in an assigned position in mold storage rack. Mold storages are located in an air conditioned area.

B. Cover, Bottom (SM-D-435949)

1. Manpower and Space Required

OPERATION	DESCRIPTION	MAN MINUTE PER LOT	S REQUIRED PER PART
Set-Up Time	Time Required to Get Equipment Ready for Molding	480	
Molding Time	Actual Time Needed to Mold the Part		1.16
Drilling Operations	Drill Holes for Hardware		None
Machining Operation			None
Assembly	Gasket (Assemble Lower Case)		3
	TOTAL	480	4.16

1. Manpower and Space Required (Continued)

MOLDER: Western Controls
2533 Southwest Street
P. O. Box 1202
Wichita, Kansas 67201

Floor Space Available: Approximately 50,000 sq. ft.

Floor Space Needed: 5,000 sq. ft.

2. Equipment, Tools, Jigs and Fixtures Required

- (a) Mold 19-31-412-3
- (b) Molding Machine Reed, Model 200, Reciprocating Screw, 18 oz., 350 ton maximum for preparing resin for injection into mold.
- (c) Oven ~ Size and temperature range to meet production requirements. Use to dry the resin previous to molding.
- (d) Scales For weighing moisture content of material.
 Type and capacity to meet application.

3. Material Required

- (a) Polycarbonate (unfilled).
- (b) Lexan 101-SE
- (c) Form Pelletized Custom Color 3015, Dk. Green

4. Molding Operations

- (a) Drying Place stock material in oven or in hopper dryer. Adjust temperature to 170-190°F. Dry stock material until there is less than .05 of 1% moisture by weight.
- (b) Fill hopper (if stock material was dried in an oven) with resin.

- (c) Mold Temperature (chiller)
- (d) Stabilize stock material from 450 to 475°F depending on existing conditions (plastication). This is done by the heater band elements located within the mold cylinder. Slight readjustment may be necessary as cycling of mold progresses.
- (e) Regulate nozzle temperature not to exceed temperatures of the stock material.
- (f) Meter stock into cylinder and regulate temperature of stock as follows.

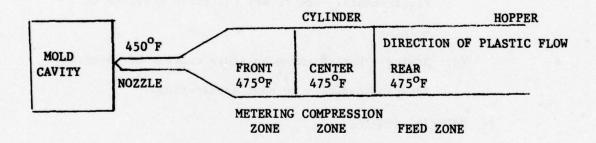


FIGURE NO. 8

- (g) Fill mold cavity and make following adjustments during cycling.
 - 1) Injection Pressure 10,000 20,000 psi
 - 2) Shot Weight should be 225 grams.
 - 3) Regulate fill speed at 2 7/8 inches.

- 4) Adjust screw speed to medium range (2.0 yellow).

 NOTE: The above is a general setting. Ultimate choice of fill speed should be one that completely fills and will consistently mold satisfactory parts. Faster fill speeds can cause short shots, burning of the plastic material or weld lines.
- 5) During cycling of machine and once normal screw rpm and heater band adjustments have reached optimum operating efficiency; adjust "back pressure" to approximately 100 psi to maintain a close control over stock temperature.
- 6) Adjust mold temperature controller to cool molded part (cool down for ejection).

NOTE: Minimum cycle time or extremely fast

cool down of part is not always the

optimum length cycle. The minimum

cycle is often too sensitive to changes

in ambient temperature. Increasing

cycle times of only one or two seconds

can increase reject rates considerably.

7) Check part ejection system as cycling commences to insure against "pile ups".

(h) Consult Figure No. 9 for complete molding specifications.

NOTE: The above is general information based on experience; however, "values can change with varying conditions, materials, part design, etc." The molder must make any adjustments or alterations as the molded sampling indicates necessary. Table III is provided to aid in troubleshooting molding problems.

5. Assembly Operations - Install Cover Gasket

- (a) SM-A-435969 to the cover using RTV-108 as supplied by the General Electric Company.
- (b) Install identification label as required.

6. Mold Maintenance

- (a) Use dry air to blow out cooling channels.
- (b) Core and cavity areas are sprayed with commercial rust preventative.
- (c) Close mold and place in an assigned position in mold storage rack. Mold storages are located in an air conditioned area.

				The last last	A CONTRACTOR	1 de 1	NOLDING MACHINE,												INSP. BATE INTIAL	TEAR-JOWN TIME		3) 247 K	TT. PRODUCED
La Control	Price Price	Ret	389				1 808 L 000	COO TOOK	1700#	1500#	Med.	DOS BANK	2 7/8"	24.0	3.5	Yellow 2.0	Blue 3.5		21		elaă Sela	TOTAL HOURS FIRES	EXAC
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C. Panel, Remote (SM-D-435952)

1. Manpower and Space Required

OPERATION	DESCRIPTION	MAN MINUTES PER LOT	REQUIRED PER PART
Set-Up Time	Time Required to Get Equipment Ready for Molding	480	
Molding Time	Actual Time Needed to Mold the Part		1.25
Drill & Tap Holes	For Hardware Installation		10
Assembly	Install Gasket, Brackets and Fill Lettering	Name of the last o	15_
	TOTAL	480	26.25

MOLDER: Western Controls 2533 Southwest Street P. O. Box 1202

Wichita, Kansas 67201

Floor Space Available: Approximately 50,000 sq. ft.

Floor Space Needed: 5,000 sq. ft.

2. Equipment, Tools, Jigs and Fixtures Required

- (a) Mold 19-31-412-2
- (b) Molding Machine Reed, Model 300, Reciprocating Screw, 30 oz., 350 ton maximum for preparing resin for injection into mold.
- (c) Oven Size and temperature range to meet production requirements. Used to dry the resin previous to molding.
- (d) Scales For weighting moisture content of material.
 Type and capacity to meet application.
- (e) Drill Press Type and size dependent on production rate. (Used to drill and tap holes as required).
- (f) Drill Jig For positioning holes (19-31-412-2).

3. Material Required

- (a) Polycarbonate (unfilled)
- (b) Lexan 101-SE
- (c) Form Pelletized, Custom Color 3015, Dk. Green.

4. Molding Operations

- (a) Drying Place stock material in oven or in hopper dryer. Adjust temperature to 170-190°F. Dry stock material until there is less than .05 of 1% moisture by weight.
- (b) Fill hopper (if stock material was dried in an oven) with resin.
- (c) Preheat mold to 125°F.
- (d) Stabilize stock material from 460 to 510°F depending on existing conditions (plastication). This is done by the heater band elements located within the mold cylinder. Slight readjustment may be necessary as cycling of mold progresses.
- (e) Regulate nozzle temperatures at 510°F.
- (f) Meter stock into cylinder and regulate temperature of stock as follows:

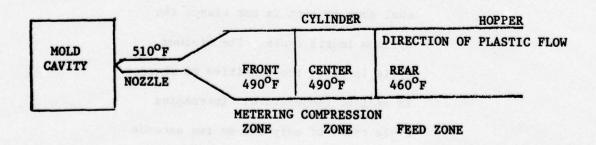


FIGURE NO. 10

- (g) Fill mold cavity and make following adjustments during cycling.
 - 1) Injection Pressure 10,000 20,000 psi
 - 2) Shot Weight should be 260 grams
 - 3) Regulate fill speed at 2 3/4 inches
 - 4) Adjust screw speed to medium (Blue 9.0)

 NOTE: The above is a general setting. Ultimate choice of fill speed should be one that completely fills and will consistently mold satisfactory parts. Faster fill speeds can cause short shots, burning of the plastic material or weld lines.
 - 5) During cycling of machine and once normal screw rpm and heater band adjustments have reached optimum operating efficiency; adjust "back pressure" to approximately 100 psi to maintain a close control over stock temperature.
 - 6) Adjust mold temperature controller to cool molded part (cool down for ejection).

NOTE: Minimum cycle time or extremely fast
cool down of part is not always the
optimum length cycle. The minimum
cycle is often too sensitive to changes
in ambient temperature. Increasing
cycle times of only one or two seconds
can increase reject rates considerably.

- 7) Check part ejection system as cycling commences to insure against "pile ups".
- (h) Consult Figure No. 11 for complete molding specifications.
 NOTE: The above is general information based on experience; however, "values can change with varying conditions, materials, part design, etc." The molder must make any adjustments or alterations as the molded sampling indicates necessary. Table III is provided to aid in troubleshooting molding problems.

Machining Operations

Drill and tap required holes per Drawing SM-D-453952.

6. Assembly Operations

- (a) Install gasket SM-A-435954 to the panel using RTV-108 as supplied by General Electric.
- (b) Install two (2) support brackets to underside of panel (slip fit only brackets will be secured at radio installation). Bracket P/N's are SM-A-435967 and SM-A-435968.
- (c) Fill instrument identification lettering using florescent white paint on top side of panel.

7. Mold Maintenance

- (a) Use dry air to blow out cooling channels.
- (b) Core and cavity areas are sprayed with commercial rust preventative.
- (c) Close mold and place in an assigned position in mold storage rack. Mold storages are located in an air conditioned area.

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D. Panel, Local (SM-D-435953)

1. Manpower and Space Required

OPERATION	DESCRIPTION	MAN MINUTES PER LOT	REQUIRED PER PART
Set-Up Time	Time Required to Get Equipment Ready for Molding	480	
Molding Time	Actual Time Needed to Mold the Part		1.25
Drilling and Tapping Operation	Drill and Tap Holes for Hardware		10
Assembly	Install Gasket and Bracket Fill Lettering		15
	TOTAL	480	26.25

MOLDER: Western Controls

2533 Southwest Street

P. O. Box 1202

Wichita, Kansas 67201

Floor Space Available: Approximately 50,000 sq. ft.

Floor Space Needed:

5,000 sq. ft.

2. Equipment, Tools, Jigs and Fixtures Required

- (a) Mold 19-31-412-1
- (b) Molding Machine Reed, Model 300, Reciprocating Screw, 30 oz., 350 ton maximum for preparing resin for injection into mold.
- (c) Oven Size and temperature range to meet production requirements. Used to dry the resin previous to molding.
- (d) Scales For weighing moisture content of material.
 Type and capacity to meet application.
- (e) Drill Press Type and size dependent on production rate. (Used to drill holes as required)
- (f) Drill Jig For positioning holes (19-31-412-1).

3. Material Required

- (a) Polycarbonate (unfilled)
- (b) Lexan 101-SE
- (c) Form Pelletized (Custom Color 3015, Dk. Green)

4. Molding Operations

- (a) Drying Place stock material in oven or in hopper dryer. Adjust temperature to 170-190°F. Dry stock material until there is less than .05 of 1% moisture by weight.
- (b) Fill hopper (if stock material was dried in an oven) with resin.
- (c) Preheat mold to 160°F.
- (d) Stabilize stock material from 470 to 520°F depending on existing conditions (plastication). This is done by the heater band elements located within the mold cylinder. Slight readjustment may be necessary as cycling of mold progresses.
- (e) Regulate nozzle temperatures at 520°F.
- (f) Meter stock into cylinder and regulate temperature of stock as follows.

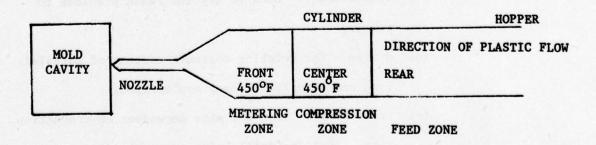


FIGURE NO. 12

- (g) Fill mold cavity and make following adjustments during cycling.
 - 1) Injection Pressure 10,000 20,000 psi
 - 2) Shot Weight should be 300 grams
 - 3) Regulate fill speed at 3 3/4 inches.
 - 4) Adjust screw speed at low range B-7.
 - NOTE: The above is a general setting. Ultimate choice of fill speed should be one that completely fills and will consistently mold satisfactory parts. Faster fill speeds can cause short shots, burning of the plastic material or weld lines.
 - 5) During cycling of machine and once normal screw rpm and heater band adjustments have reached optimum operating efficiency; adjust "back pressure" to approximately 100 psi to maintain a close control over stock temperature.
 - 6) Adjust mold temperature controller to cool molded part (cool down for ejection).

NOTE: Minimum cycle time or extremely fast

cool down of part is not always the

optimum length cycle. The minimum

cycle is often too sensitive to changes

in ambient temperature. Increasing

cycle times of only one or two seconds

can increase reject rates considerably.

- 7) Check part ejection system as cycling commences to insure against "pile ups".
- (h) Consult Figure No. 13 for complete molding specifications.
 NOTE: The above is general information based on experience; however, "values can change with varying conditions, materials, part design, etc." The molder must make any adjustments or alternations as the molded sampling indicates

necessary. Table III is provided to aid in

5. Machining Operations

Drill and tap required holes per Drawing SM-D-453952.

6. Assembly Operations

(a) Install cover gasket SM-A-435954 to the panel using RTV-108 as supplied by General Electric.

troubleshooting molding problems.

- (b) Install one (1) support bracket to underside of panel. (Slip fit only. Brackets will be secured at radio installation). Bracket part number is SM-A-435968.
- (c) Fill instrument identification lettering on top side of panel with florescent white paint.

7. Mold Maintenance

- (a) Use dry air to blow out cooling channels.
- (b) Core and cavity areas are sprayed with commercial rust preventative.
- (c) Close mold and place in an assigned position in mold storage rack. Mold storages are located in an air conditioned area.

MATERIAL CODE NUMBER MATERIAL DESCRIPTION Lexan 101,3015 No. CAVITIES IN MOLS NO. CAVITIES IN MOLS RORWARD DIES DIES DELAY UNLOAD DELAY OPEN DECOMPRESS STUPFING PLUNGER ADVANCE CYCLE STUPFING PLUNGER ADVANCE CYCLE STUPFING DESCRIPTIO DESCRIPTIO DESCRIPTIO DESCRIPTIO DESCRIPTIO DESCRIPTIO DESCRIPTIO DESCRIPTIO DESCRIPTIO DESCRIPTIO

TABLE NUMBER WII

TROUBLE SHOOTING

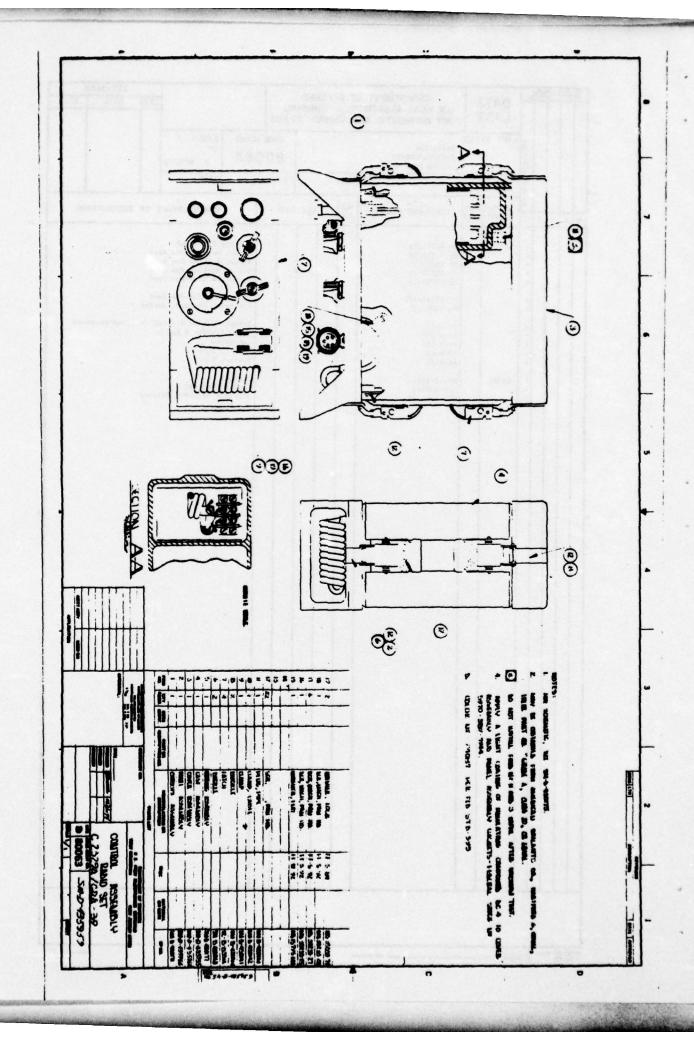
As an example of how to use the trouble shooting chart, assume the problem in question is poor surface finish on the molded part. Under the column titled "poor surface finish" read downward until you find remedy #1. This will indicate the easiest possible solution to the problem. If predrying does not correct the situation, use remedy #2 in the same column. Afterwards, if the problem still remains, subsequent remedies are prescribed until the condition is corrected. The same procedure is followed to trouble-shoot other abnormal conditions listed.

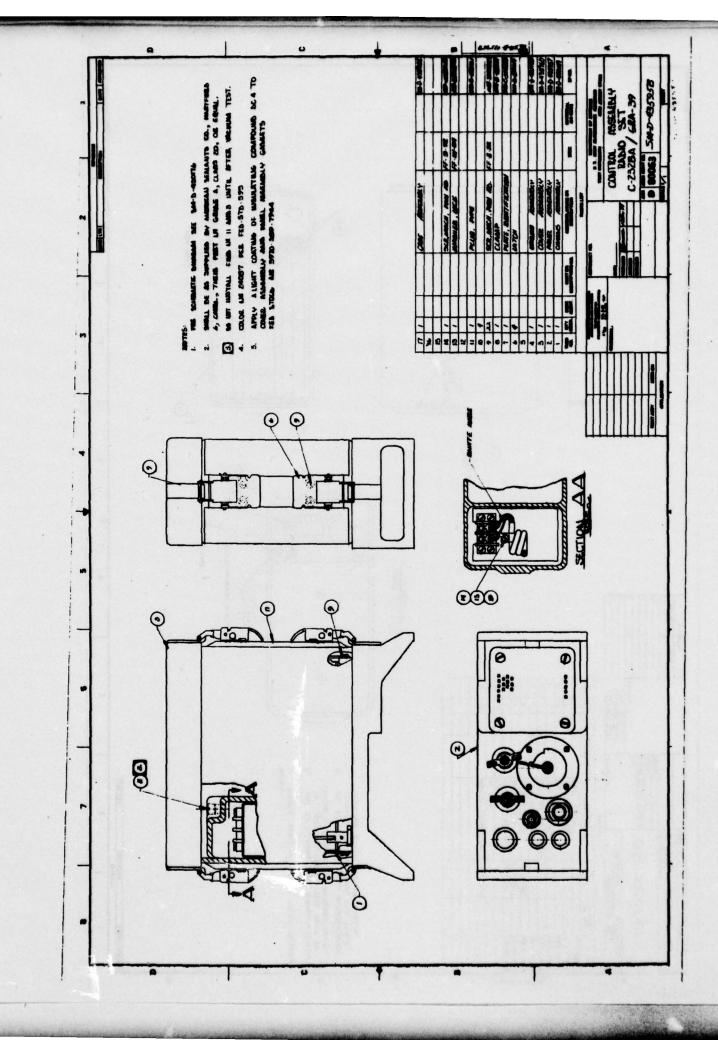
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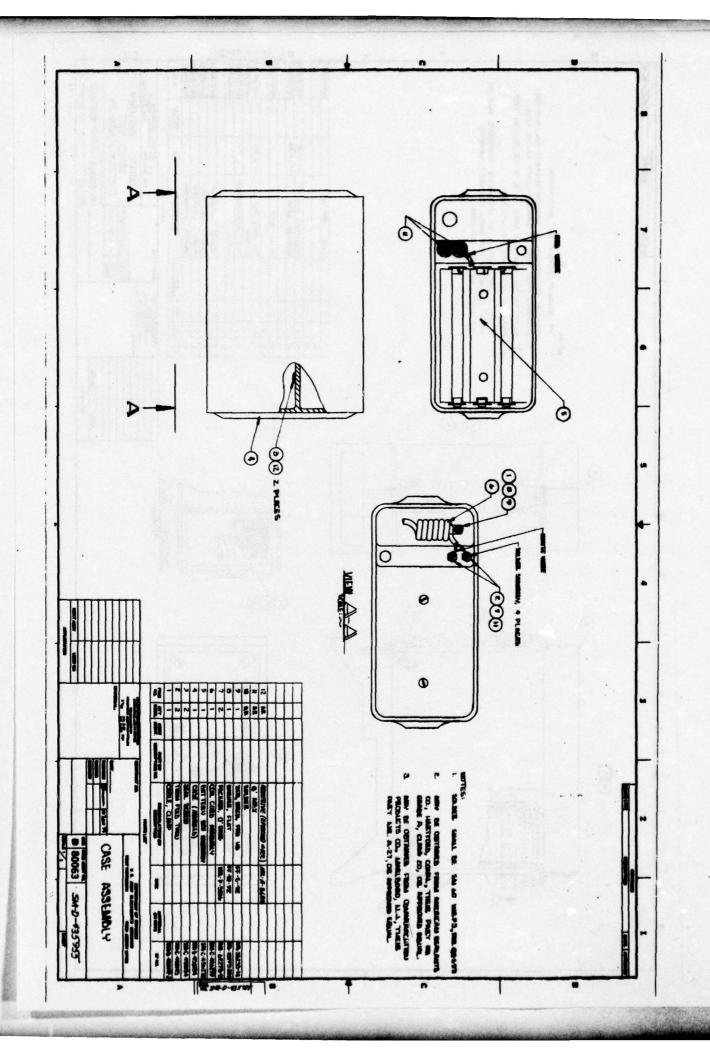
APPENDIX

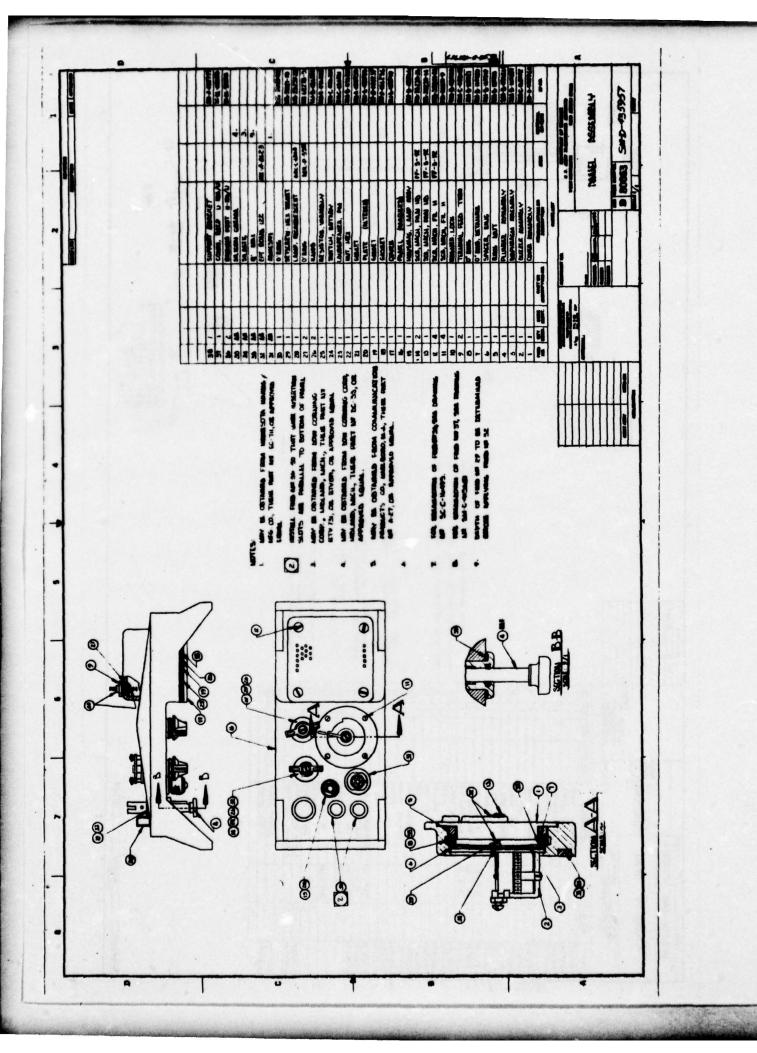
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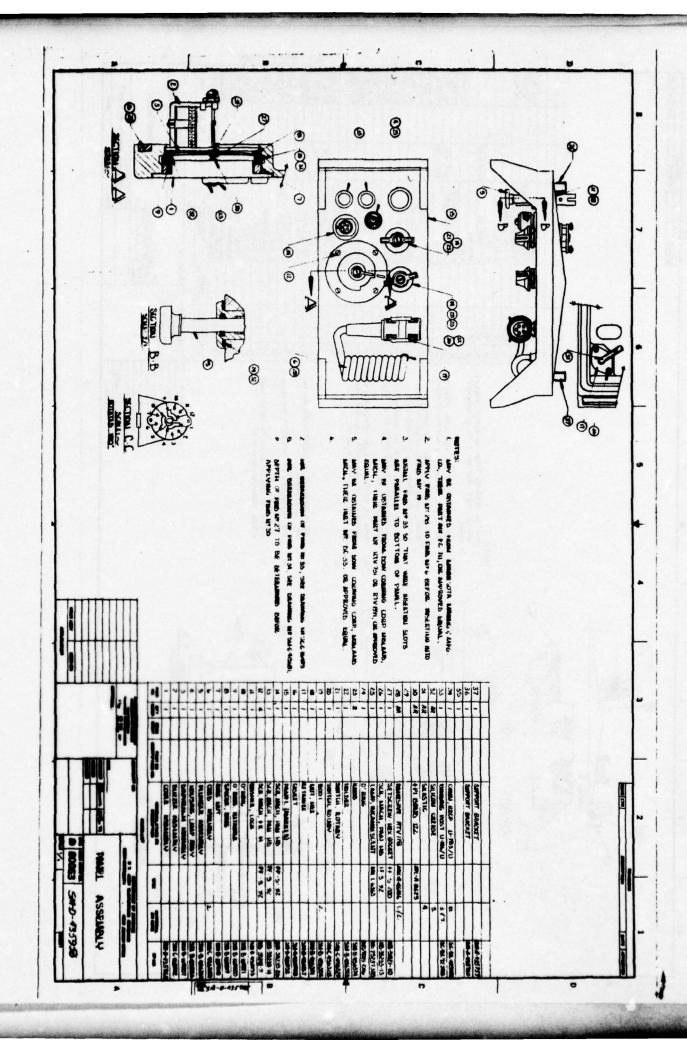
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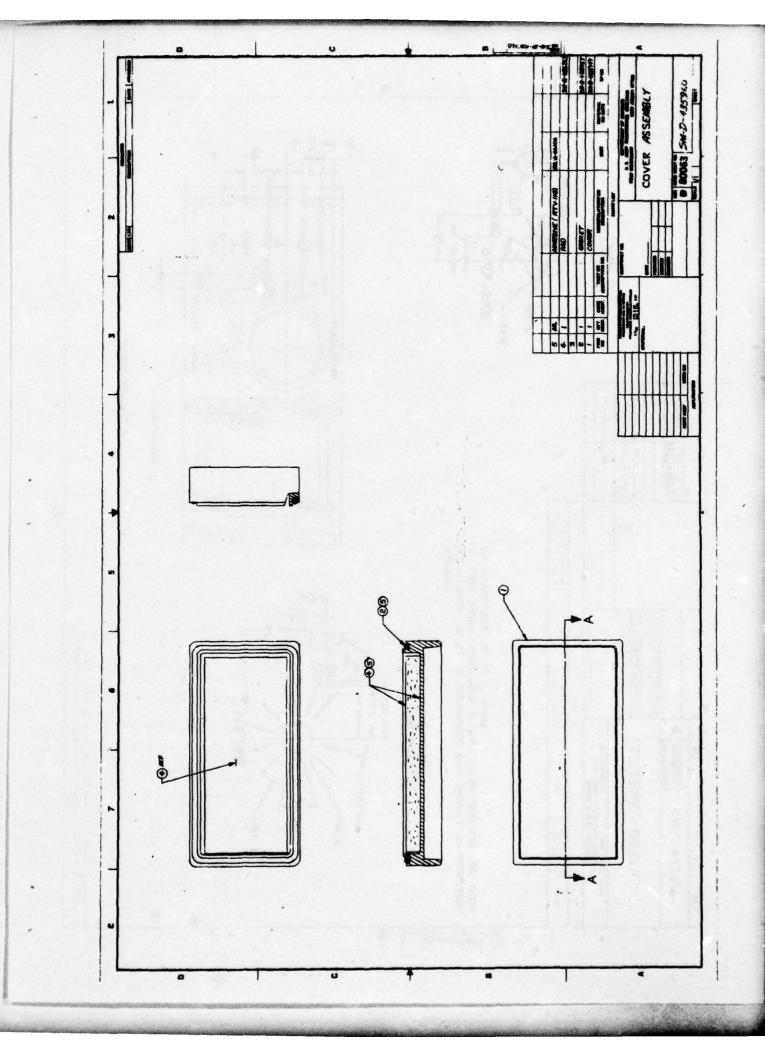


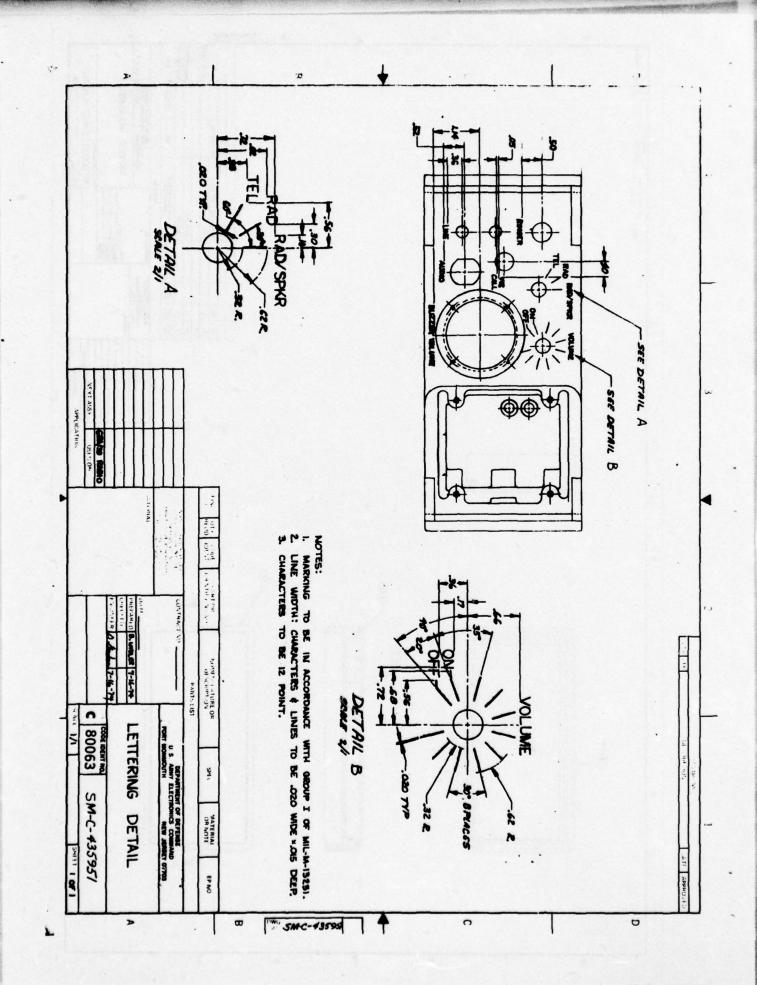


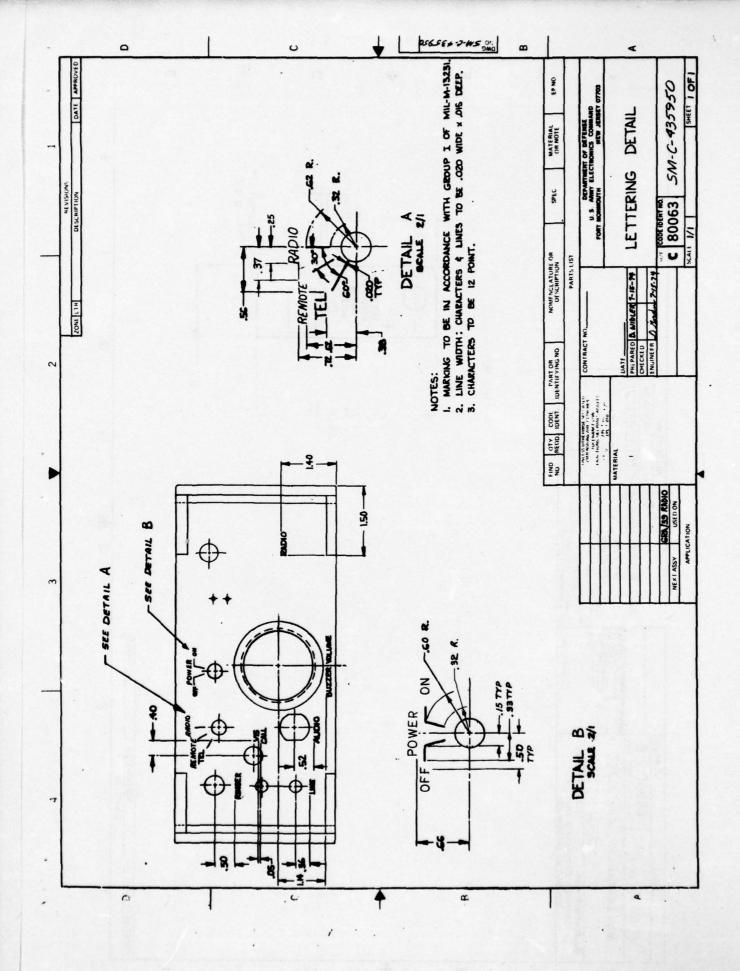


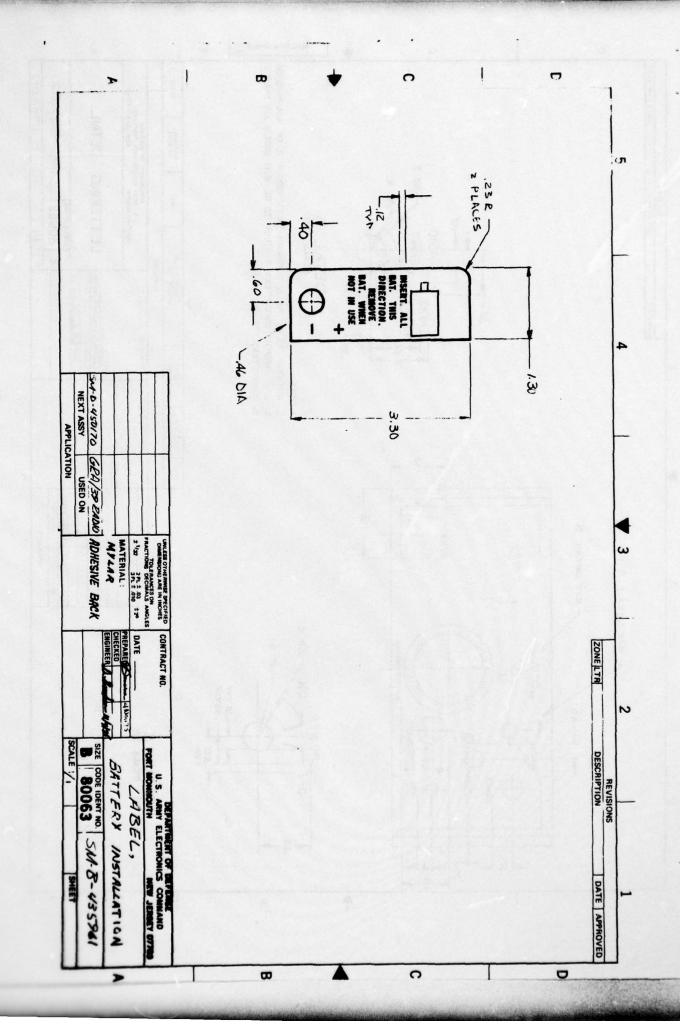


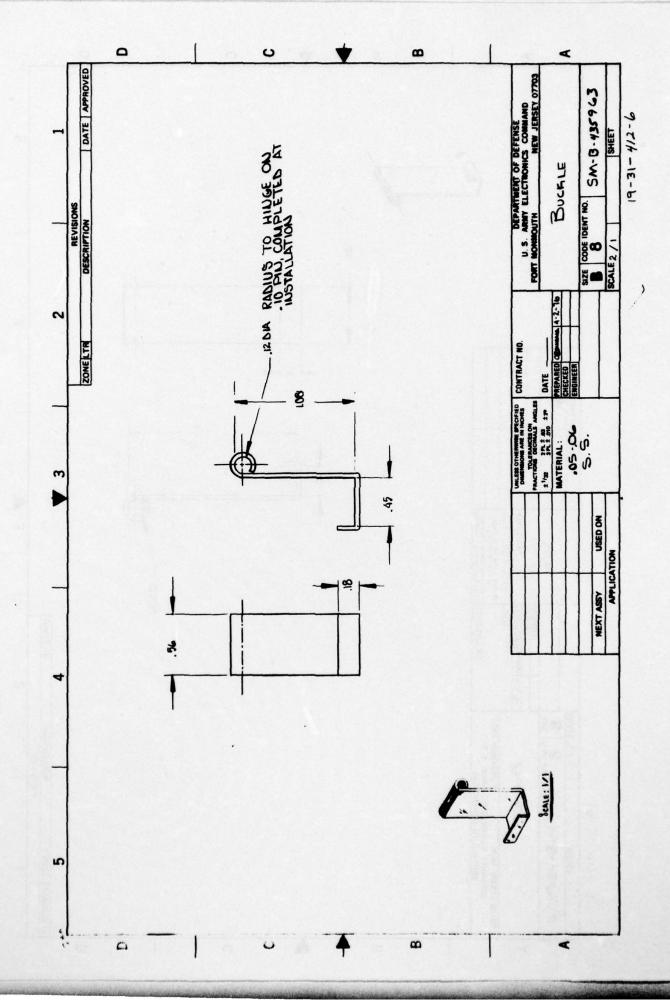


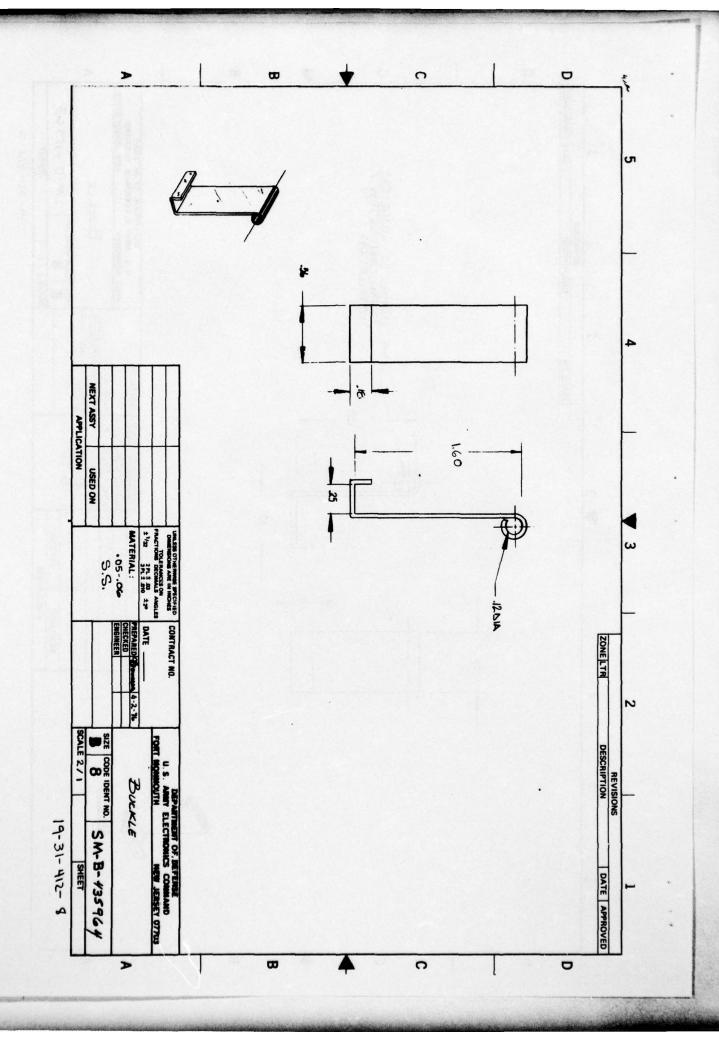


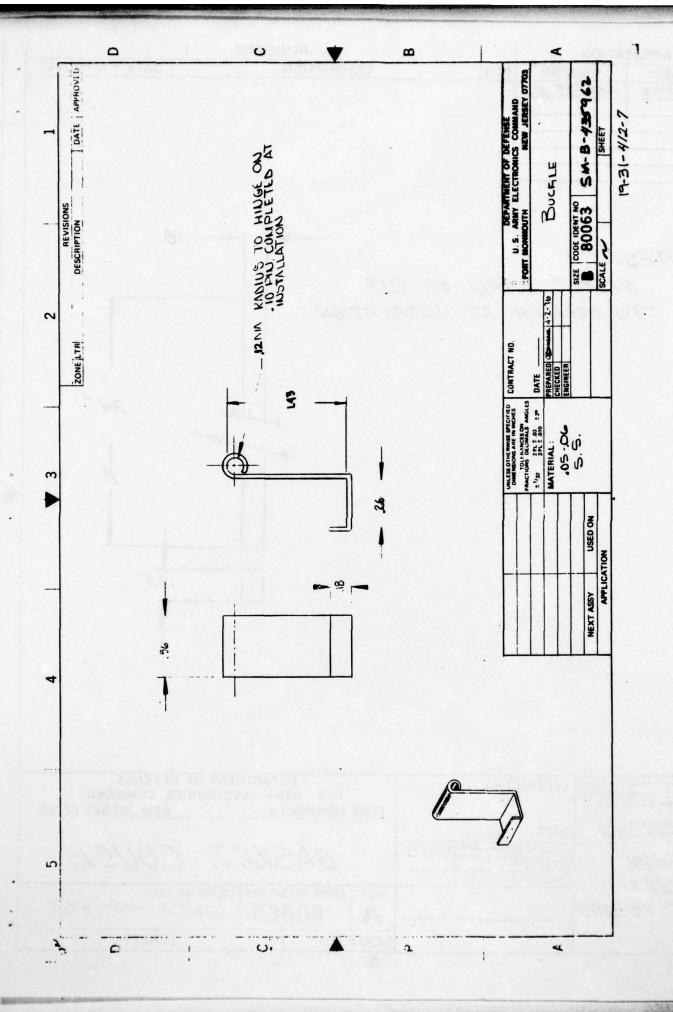












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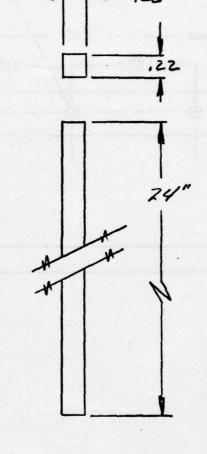
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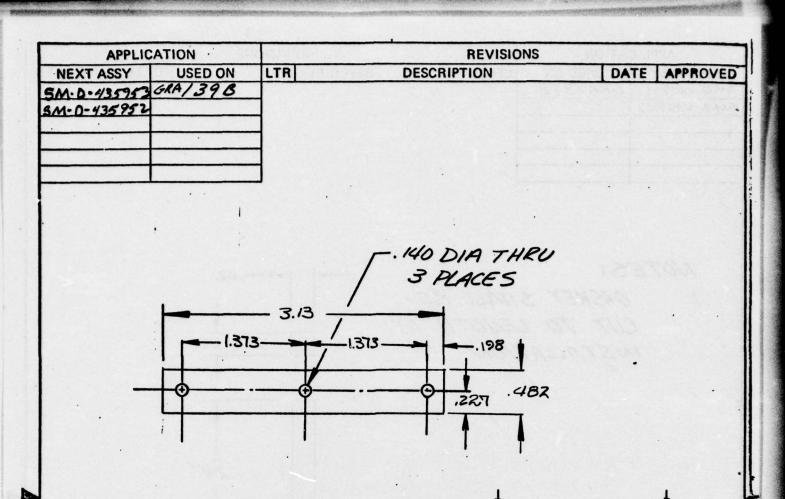
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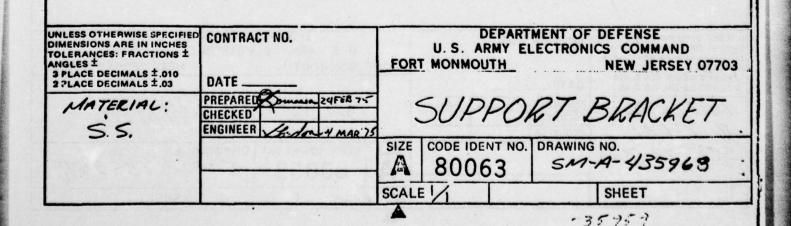
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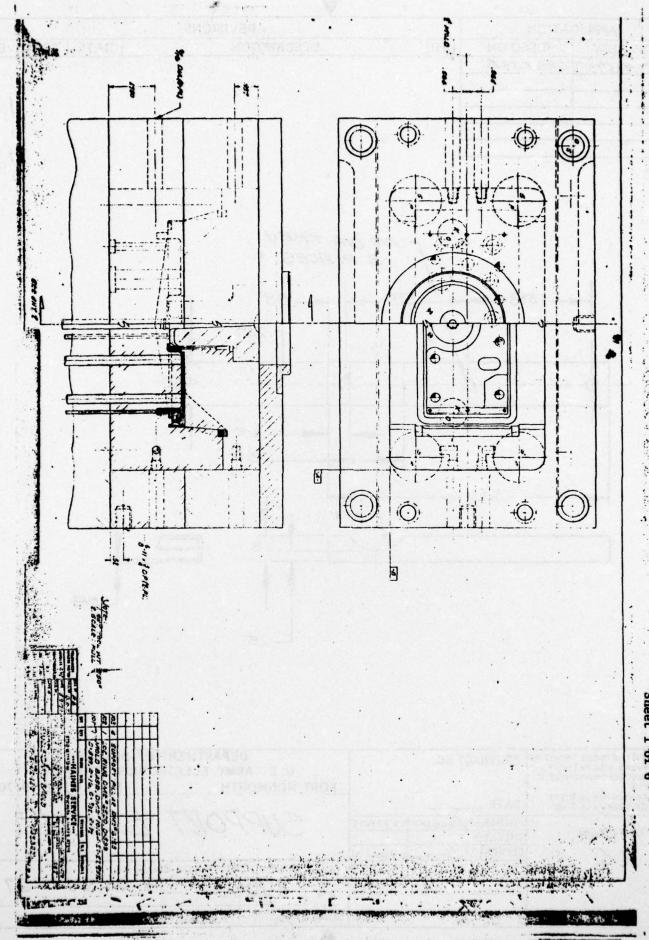


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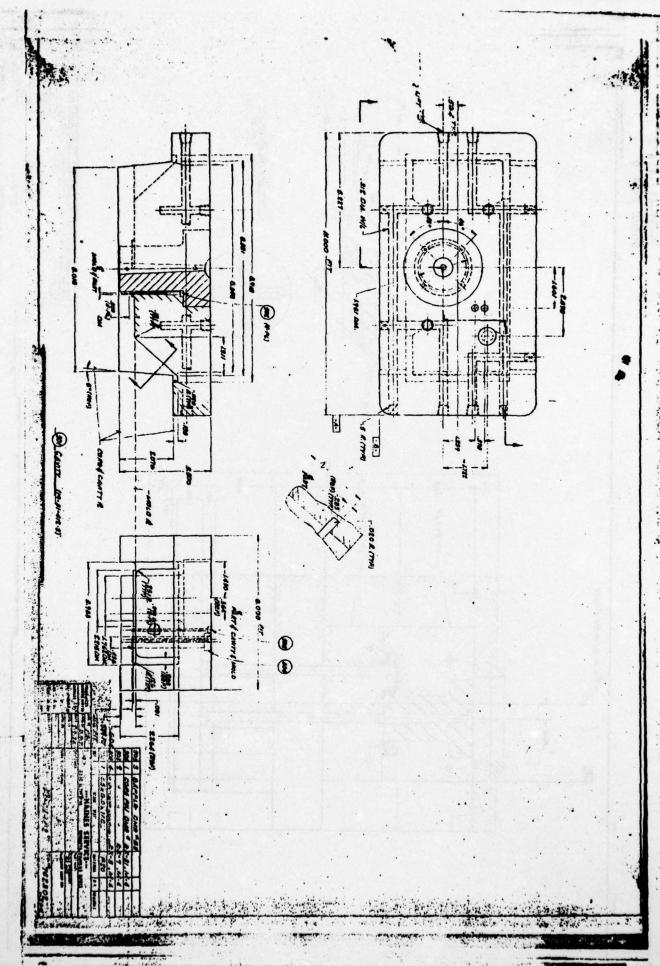
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Single Cavity Mold Panel
19-31-412-1 & 2
Short 1 of 6

Panel 19-31-412-1 6 Sheet 2 of 6 3



Panel 19-31-412-1 & 2 Sheet 3 of 6

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Panel 19-31-412-1 & 2 Sheet 4 of 6

Panel 19-31-412-1 & 2 Sheet 5 of 6

Panel 19-11-412-1 & 2 Sheet 6 of 6

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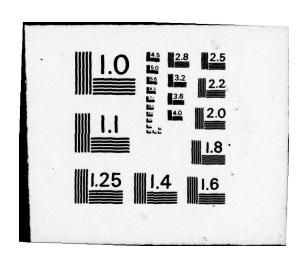




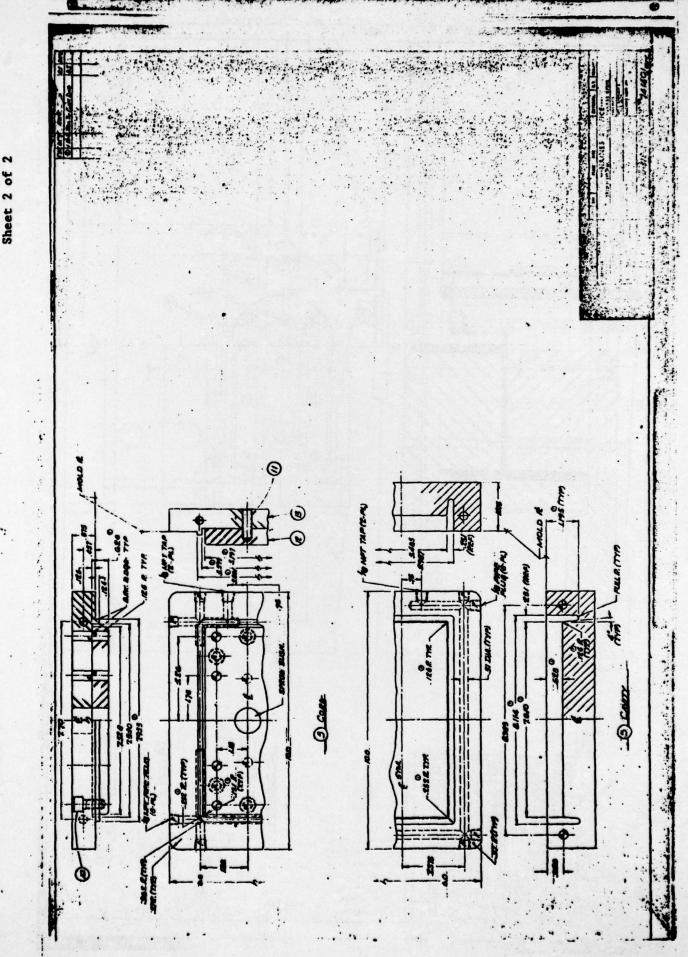




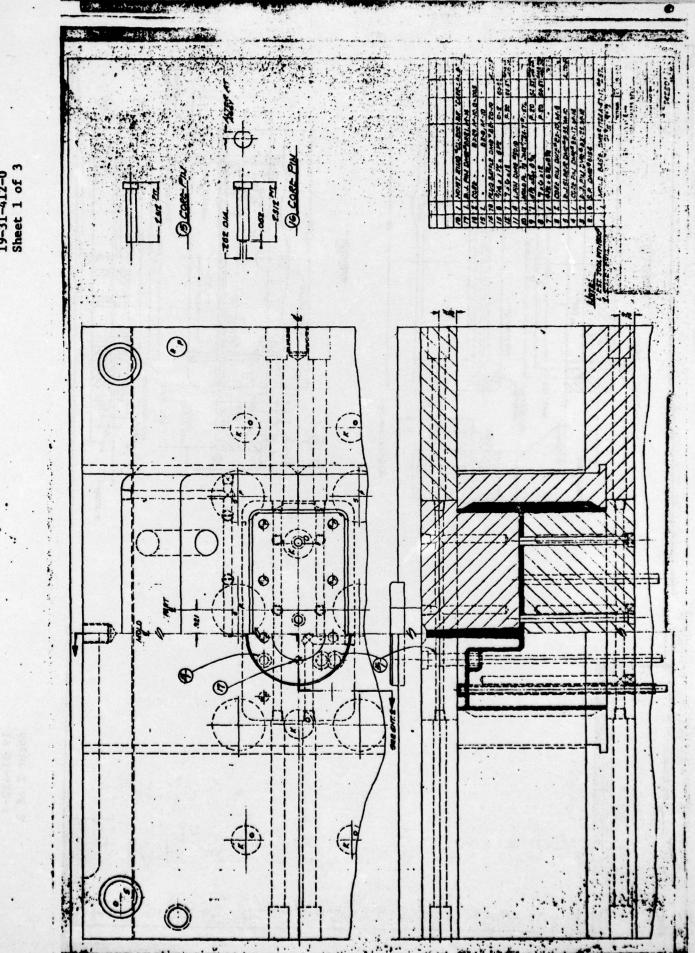
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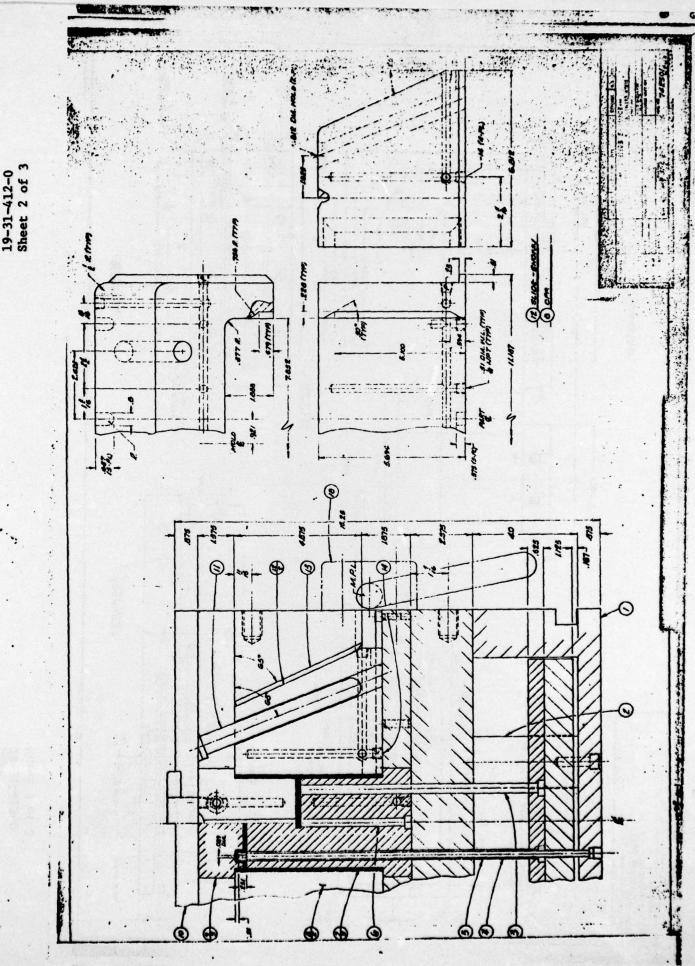
Single Cavity Mold Cover 19-31-412-3
Sheet 1 of 2



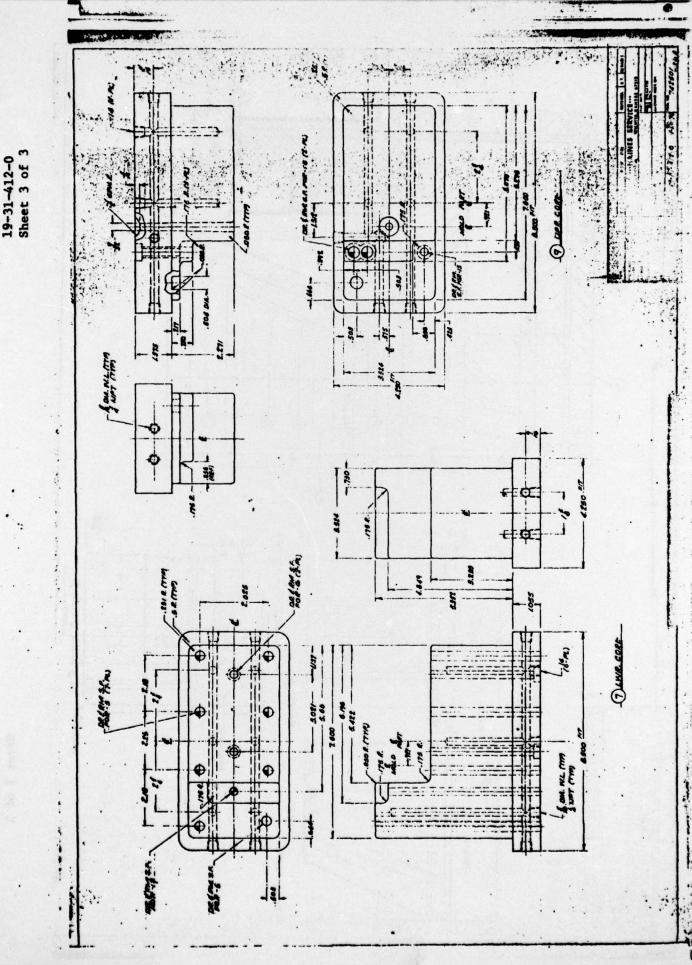
Cover 19-31-412-3 Sheet 2 of 2



Single Cavity Mold Case 19-31-412-0 Sheet 1 of 3



Case 19-31-412-0 Sheet 2 of 3



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