

**SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPORTING  
OF  
AERIAL PLATFORMS**

	<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>1. GENERAL</b>	. . . . .	<b>1</b>
<b>2. PRECAUTIONS</b>	. . . . .	<b>1</b>
<b>3. RAISING THE EXTENSION LADDERS</b>	. . . . .	<b>1</b>
<b>4. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPORTING</b>	. . . . .	<b>4</b>
<b>5. INSTALLATION AND REMOVAL OF AERIAL PLATFORMS</b>	. . . . .	<b>6</b>
<b>6. LOWERING THE EXTENSION LADDERS</b>	. . . . .	<b>7</b>

**1. GENERAL**

**1.01** This section covers the use of extension ladders as supplementary supports for aerial platforms when used on aerial cable. This section has been reissued to include the uses of supplementary supporting and to correct BSP cross-references.

**1.02** This method provides for the use of two ladders as an "A" frame. The strand is suspended by a rope from the ladders with the resultant load equally divided between the four

side rails of the ladders. At the same time this arrangement maintains the proper working position of both ladders.

**1.03** Supplementary supporting of aerial platforms shall be used whenever existing conditions tend to result in excessive swaying or side travel, such as in midspan locations or on long spans. This type of support prevents excessive strain from being placed on the cable itself.

**1.04** Since this reissue covers a general revision, marginal arrows ordinarily used to indicate changes have been omitted.

**2. PRECAUTIONS**

**2.01** Observe all precautions for the use of aerial platforms and extension ladders as covered in Section 081-300-011 and Section 081-740-105, respectively.

**3. RAISING THE EXTENSION LADDERS**

**3.01** Detailed information for raising extension ladders is provided in Part 7, Section 081-740-105.

3.02 Fig. 1 illustrates the ladder placed in position on the ground before raising. A handline has been tied to the bottom rung, passed over the strand, passed around the second rung from the top, and carried back to the workman at the base of the ladder.

3.03 Fig. 2 illustrates the ladder partially raised by the workman pulling in the handline hand over hand. As the top of the ladder is raised off the ground, the workman's feet are kept in position at the base of the ladder to block any movement of the ladder to the rear.

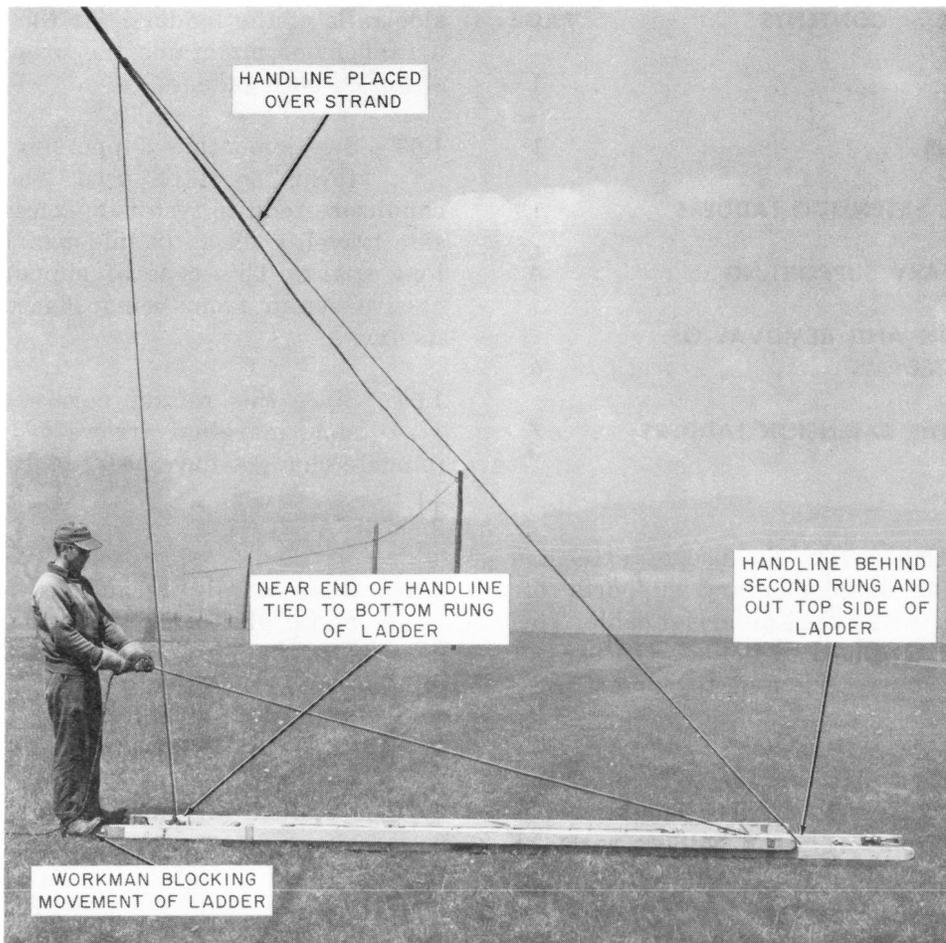
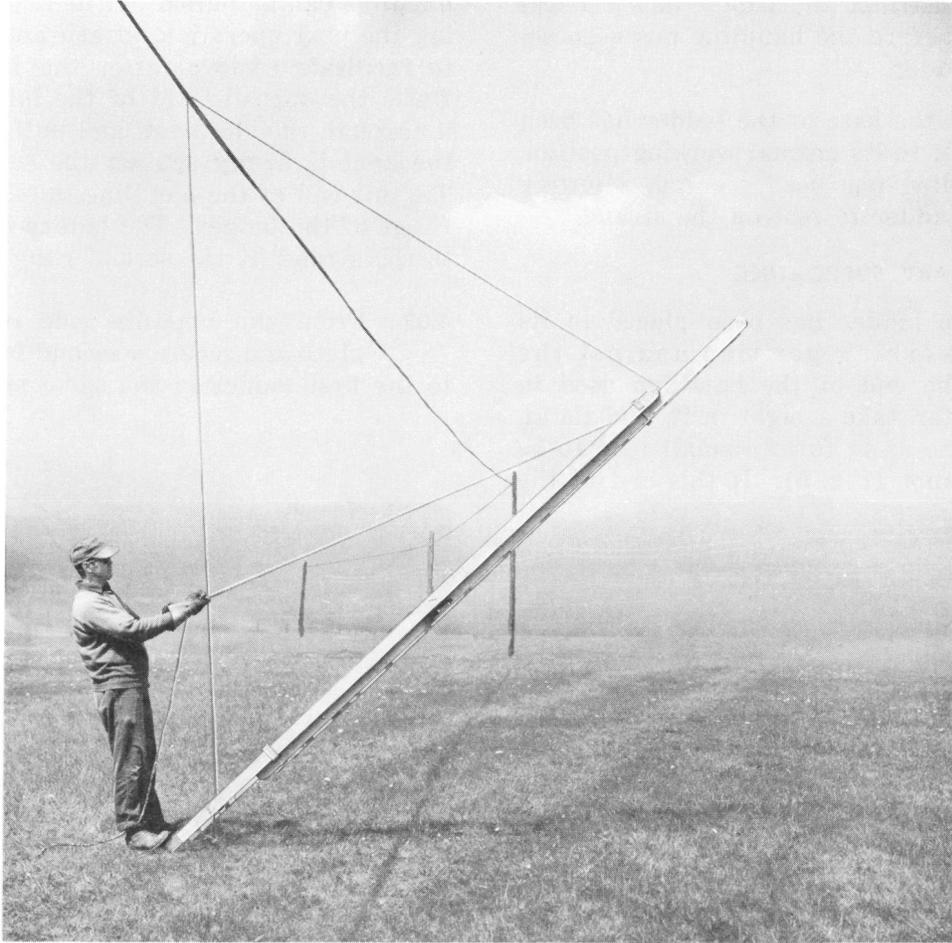


Fig. 1 — Preparing to Raise Extension Ladder



**Fig. 2 — Ladder Partially Raised**

**3.04** Fig. 3 illustrates the ladder in a vertical position before the handline has been secured to the ladder.

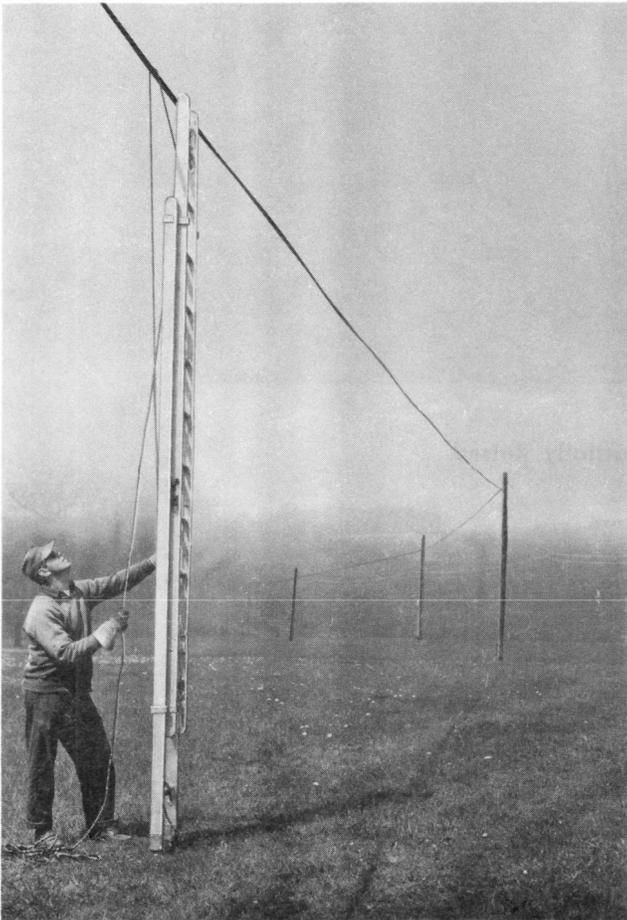
**3.05** In Fig. 4, the base of the ladder has been moved out to its normal working position after the handline has been secured, allowing the top of the ladder to rest on the strand.

**4. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPORTING**

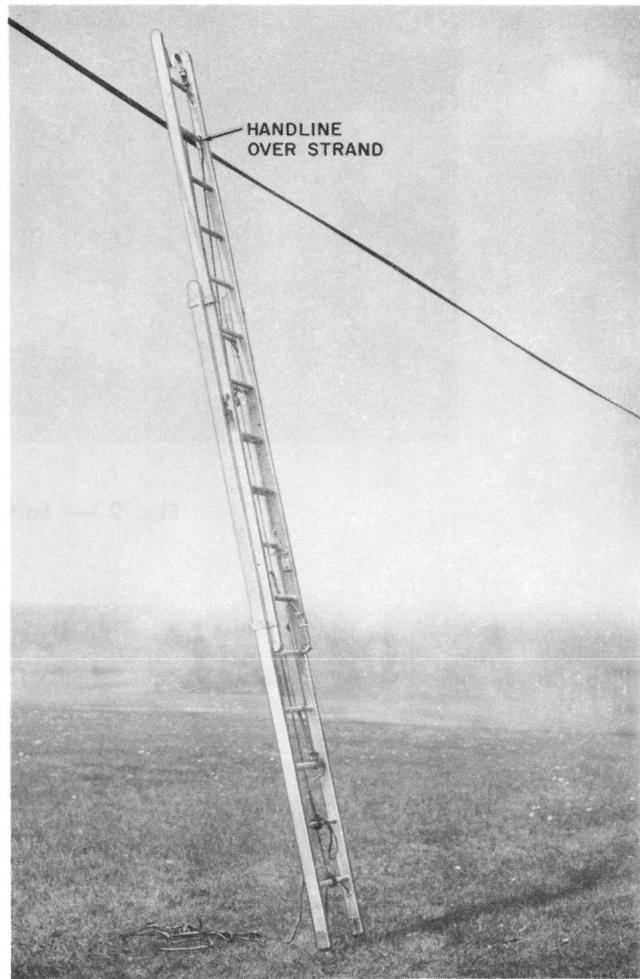
**4.01** After the ladder has been placed in its normal working position against the strand, untie the end of the handline used in raising the ladder, take a bight in it, and tie an overhand knot so as to form a small loop to be used as a slip knot (Fig. 5). If this end of the

handline can be pulled out of reach in performing the next operation, attach another handline to facilitate removal after the job is finished. Untie the opposite end of the handline, thread it through the slip knot, and pull the rope until the knot is firmly against the cable or strand. Tie this end of the handline to one of the lower rungs of the ladder. The ladder is now secured to the strand at the second rung from the top.

**4.02** From the opposite side of the strand, place and secure a second ladder adjacent to the first ladder in the same manner used in



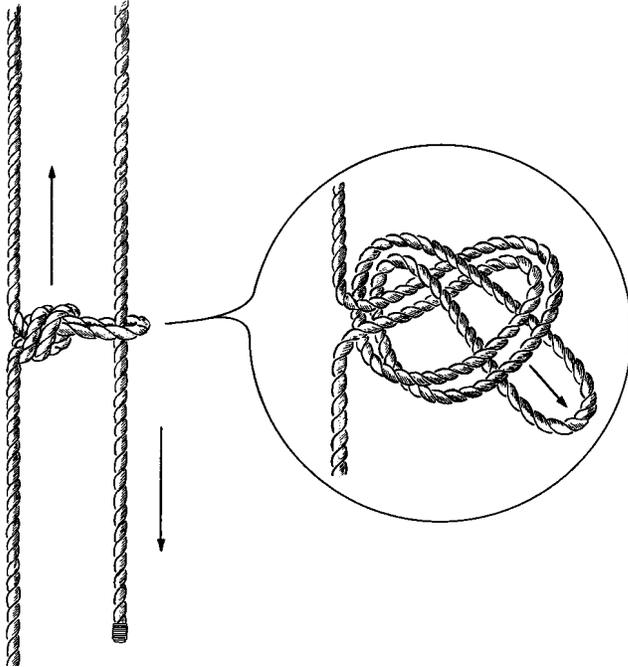
**Fig. 3 — Ladder in Vertical Position**



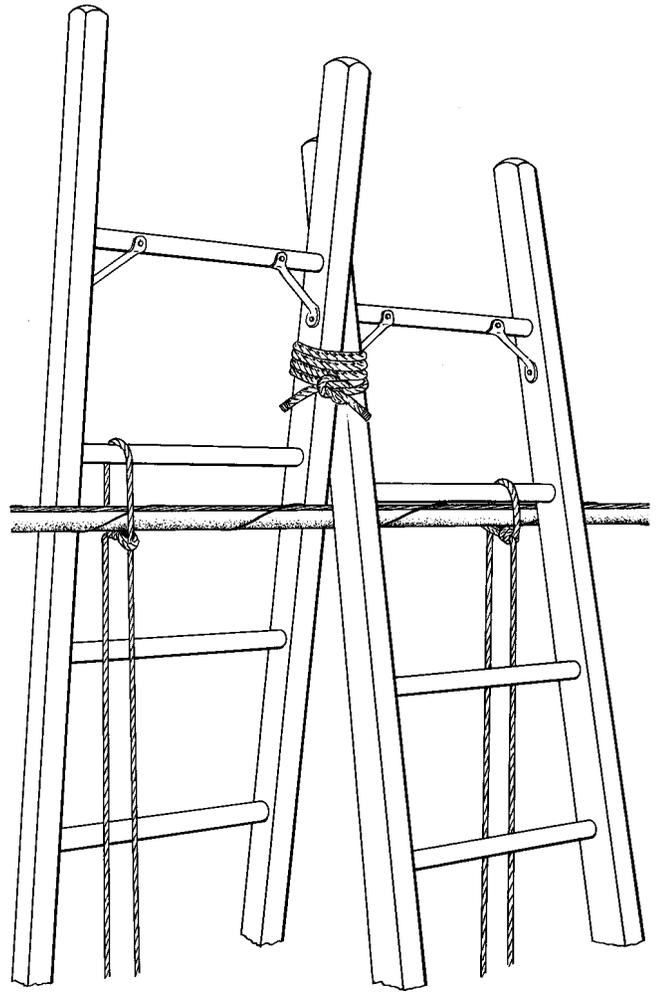
**Fig. 4 — Ladder in Working Position**

placing the first and secure in the same way. *Now that both ladders are secured to the strand at the second rung, care shall be taken not to make any adjustments at the base of the ladders which might affect the slope ratio.*

**4.03** Climb one of the ladders and lash the adjacent ladder side rails together above the strand (Fig. 6).



**Fig. 5 — Handline with Bight and Loop**



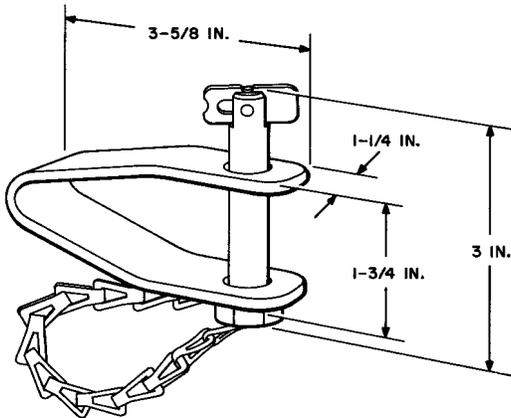
**Fig. 6 — Side Rails Lashed Together**

## SECTION 081-300-203

**4.04** To equally divide the resultant load on the side rails of each ladder it is necessary to support the strand by placing a rope sling between the centers of the second rung of each ladder. To do this, place a B Lifting Shackle (Fig. 7) on the strand below the point where the adjacent side rails cross.

**4.05** Place the rope sling by fastening one end of a 1-inch rope 10 feet long to the outside rail of either ladder using a clove hitch and two half-hitches. Take a half-hitch around the center of the second rung. Pass the rope through the B Lifting Shackle and take a half-hitch around the second rung of the second ladder (Fig. 8). Remove all slack and secure the end to the outside rail of the second ladder using a clove hitch and two half-hitches. A 3/4-inch rope may be used if it is doubled. **Do not support the strand by lashing it to the ladder.**

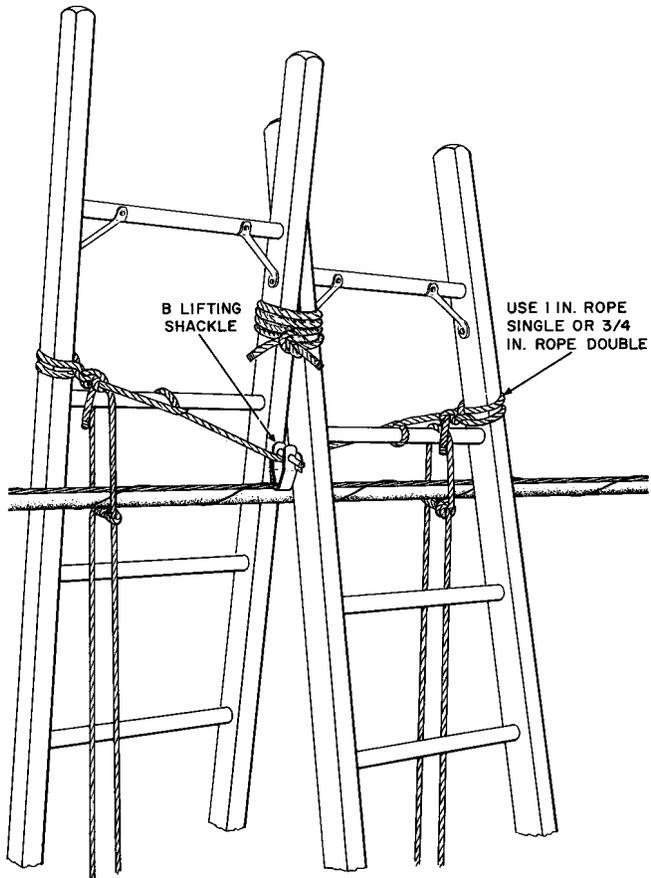
**4.06** Do not untie the handlines with the slip knots used to secure the ladders to the strand.



**Fig. 7 — B Lifting Shackle**

## 5. INSTALLATION AND REMOVAL OF AERIAL PLATFORMS

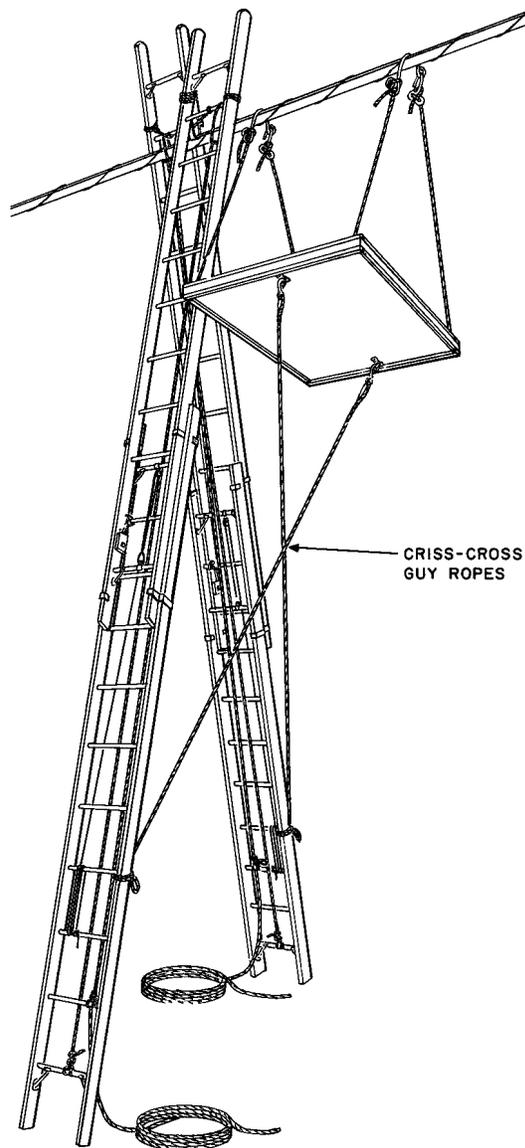
**5.01** The aerial platform should be installed and removed as described in Sections 081-300-200 or 081-300-201 except that when the platform is placed, the guy ropes must be criss-crossed and each tied to the ladder on the opposite side of the strand. See Fig. 9.



**Fig. 8 — Rope Sling in Place Using B Lifting Shackle**

**6. LOWERING THE EXTENSION LADDERS**

**6.01** To lower the extension ladders, reverse the placing procedures.



**Fig. 9 — Platform in Place and Lashed to Ladder**