

**BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES**  
**Outside Plant Construction**  
**and Maintenance**

**SECTION G85.045.3**  
**Issue 1, December, 1957**  
**AT&T Co Standard**

## **C AERIAL PLATFORM**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
1. General .....	1
2. Installation .....	3
3. Removing Platform .....	8
4. Installing a Platform Without Attaching to Strand	9
5. Superseded Types .....	10

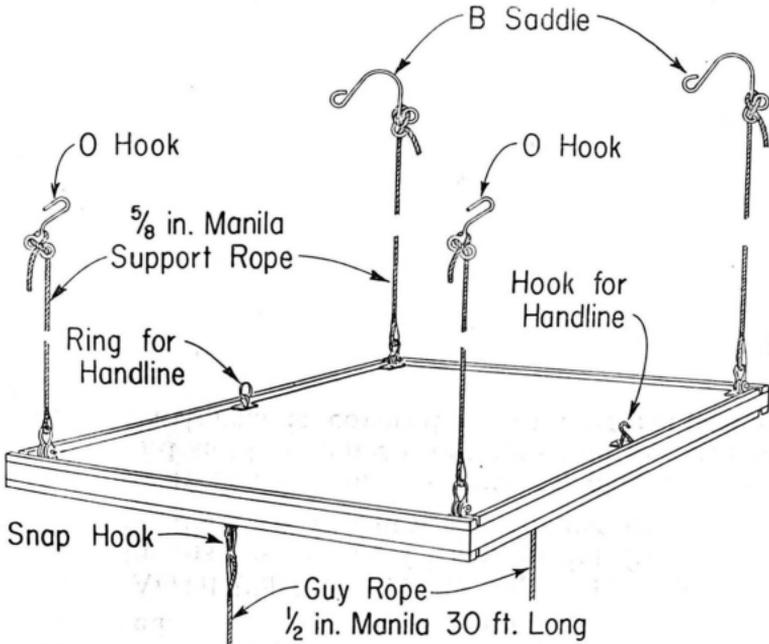
### **1. GENERAL**

1.01 This section covers the method of installing C Aerial Platforms. This platform of lightweight construction, available in three sizes for general splicing work, supersedes the Closed Aerial Platforms previously described in Section G85.045 which is replaced.

1.02 The C Aerial Platforms in the two larger sizes have the same dimensions as the Closed Aerial Platforms. The smallest C Aerial Platform is a new size for use by one man.

1.03 General information on precautions, placing handlines, hooks and saddles, tying guy ropes and general inspection of aerial platforms is covered in another section of the Practices.

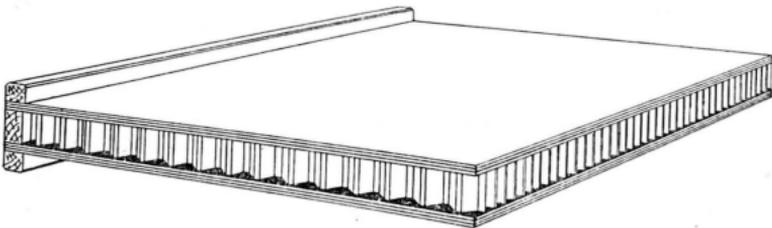
1.04 The C Aerial Platforms are shown.



C AERIAL PLATFORM

Size (Inches)	Length (Inches)	Width (Inches)	Weight (Pounds)
48	48	32	33
52	52	42	55
64	64	42	66

1.05 The assembly of one inch deep resin impregnated kraft paper honeycomb bonded between two 1/4-inch exterior grade birch plywood panels gives the C Aerial Platform its light weight. The construction is shown.



1.06 Four O or K Hooks may be used for the support ropes. On lashed cable, two O or K Hooks and two B Saddles may be used. The guy ropes are detachable.

1.07 Both sides of the platform are alike. The hardware is arranged so that it can be removed and inserted from the other side to make the platform reversible.

1.08 Replacement parts for the C Aerial Platform are listed below:

**Hook, O**

**Hook, K**

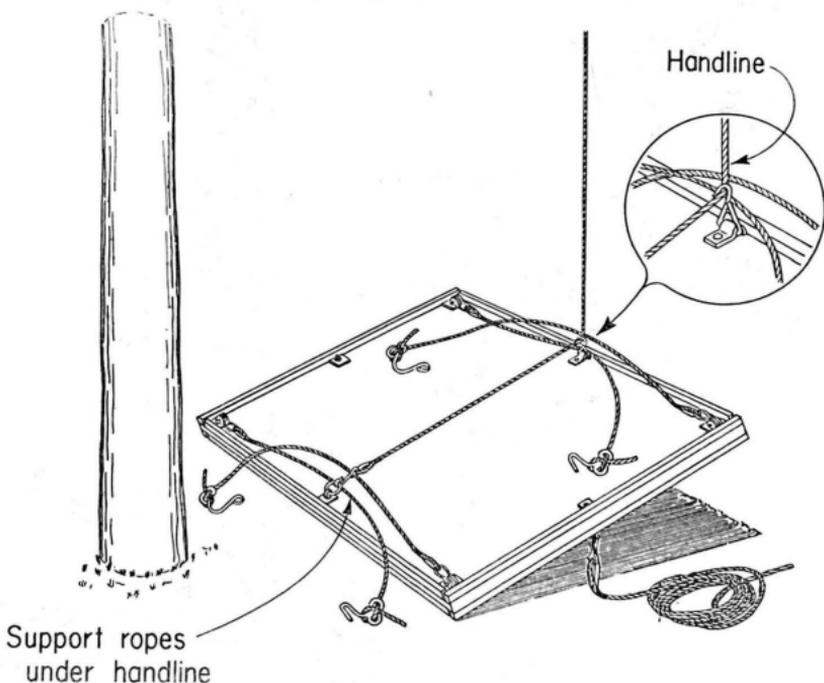
**Saddle, B**

**Rope, Support (6-1/2 ft. or 12 ft.)**

**Rope, Guy**

## 2. INSTALLATION

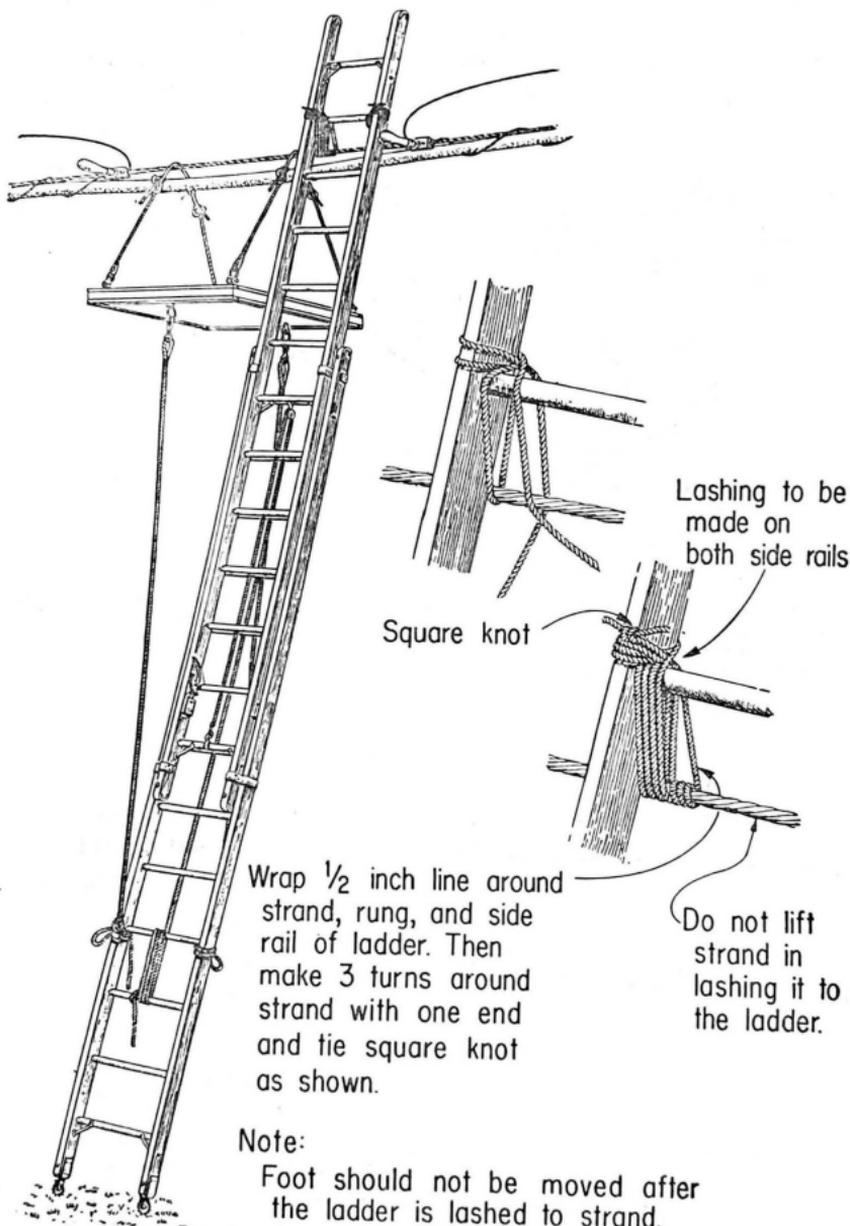
2.01 The illustration shows the method of attaching the handline to the C Aerial Platform.



2.02 **Use of Extension Ladder:** An extension ladder should be used to facilitate guying an aerial platform and to relieve the strand of some of the load where:

- the platform is suspended more than 3 or 4 feet from the pole in which case the guy ropes cannot be tied satisfactorily to the pole,
- the platform is suspended in a slack span, (except slack spans to buildings),
- additional platforms are installed in the span. Then use a ladder with each platform.

The method of installing extension ladders is described in another section of the Practices. Before raising the platform, tie the ladder to the strand as illustrated below. **DO NOT MOVE THE BASE OF THE LADDER AFTER THE LADDER HAS BEEN LASHED TO THE STRAND.**



### 2.03 RAISING PLATFORM — TWO MEN:

(1) In raising the platform one man stands near the pole or ladder but not directly under the block of the aerial handline, which is placed near the position to be occupied by the outer support ropes. The man on the ground then raises the platform to within several inches of the strand. The man on the pole or ladder then engages the top pair of hooks or saddle and hook with the strand.

(2) After the first pair of hooks or saddle and hook have been engaged proceed as follows:

(a) The man on the ground lowers the platform so that it is suspended by the two support ropes that have just been attached to the strand.

(b) The man on the pole or ladder disengages the handline from the hook on the platform and moves the handline block on the strand to approximately 6 inches from the pole or ladder.

(c) The man on the ground then raises the other end of the platform so that the man above can engage the second pair of hooks (or saddle and hook) on the strand. The support ropes shall not be attached to guard arms, pole steps or other pole hardware.

(3) Before tying the guy ropes, level the platform. The length of the support ropes can be adjusted readily by moving them through the double eye of the hooks. **Rope adjustments should not be made when standing on the platform.**

### 2.04 RAISING PLATFORM — ONE MAN:

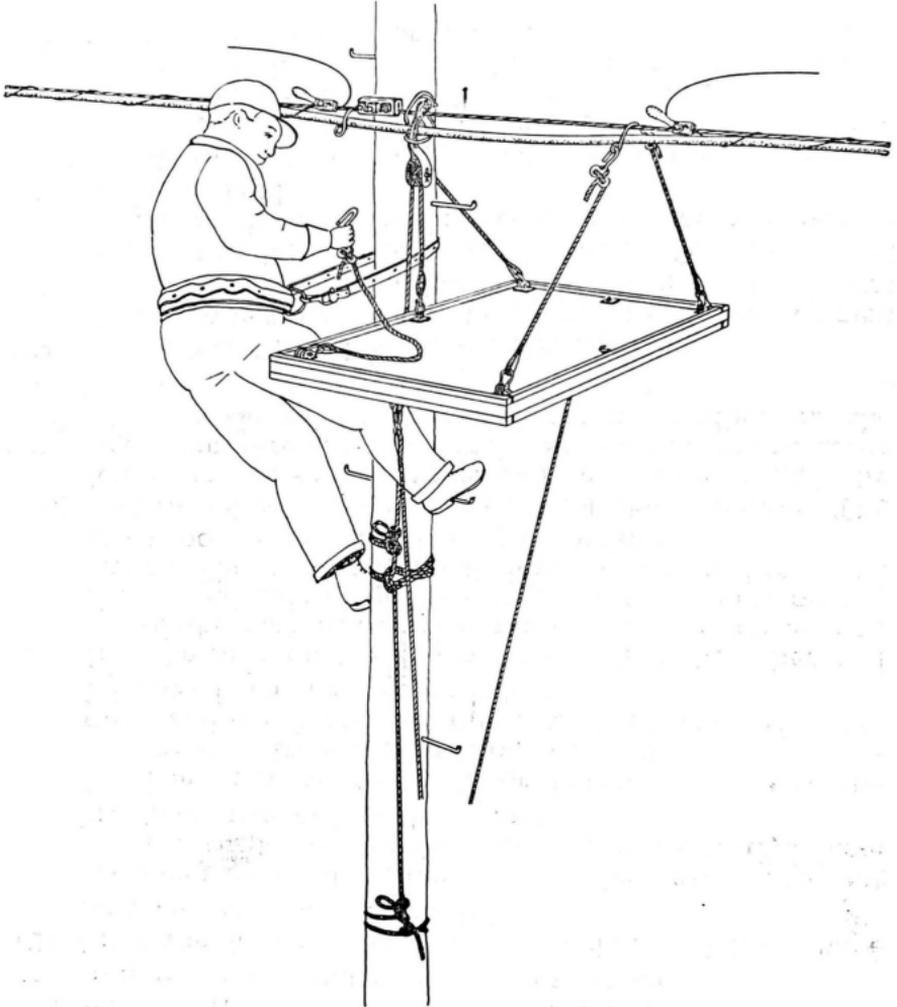
One man performs the same operations as the two men

do. To avoid extra climbing, the method changes as follows:

(1) Raise the platform to about 30 inches from the strand and then tie the handline securely around the base of the pole or ladder.

(2) Climb the pole or ladder and engage the top pair of hooks or saddle and hook with the strand. Then disengage the handline from the hook on the platform and move the handline block on the strand to approximately 6 inches from the pole or ladder.

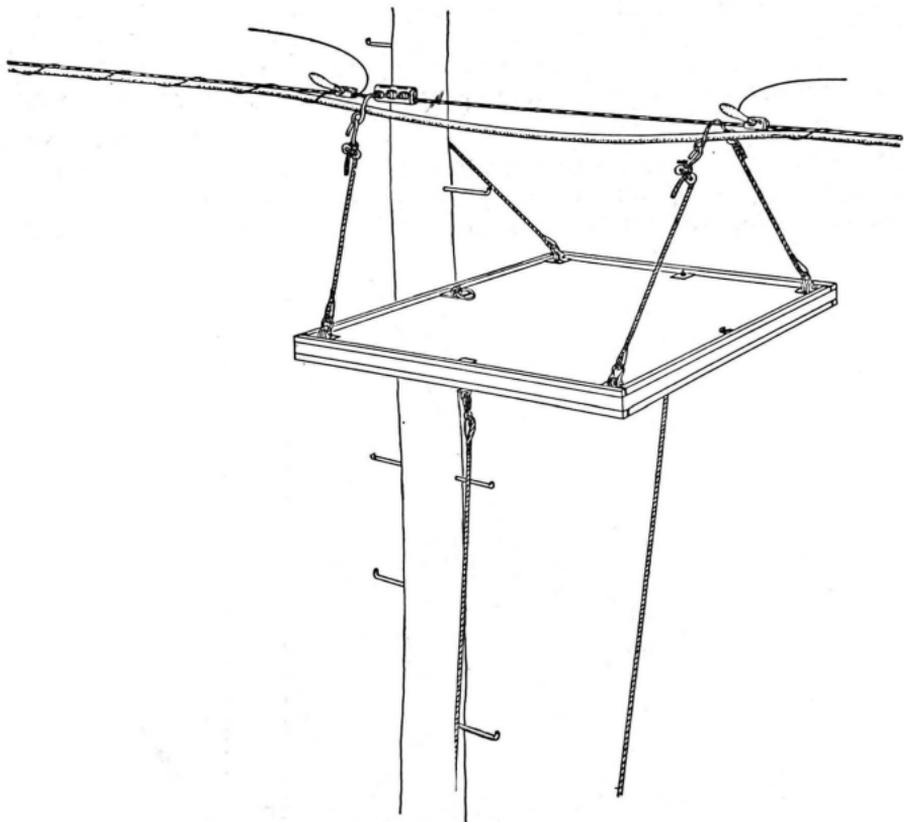
(3) Leaving the handline tied at the base of the pole or ladder raise the other end of the platform to a level position with the handline and tie the handline securely around the pole or ladder near working level.



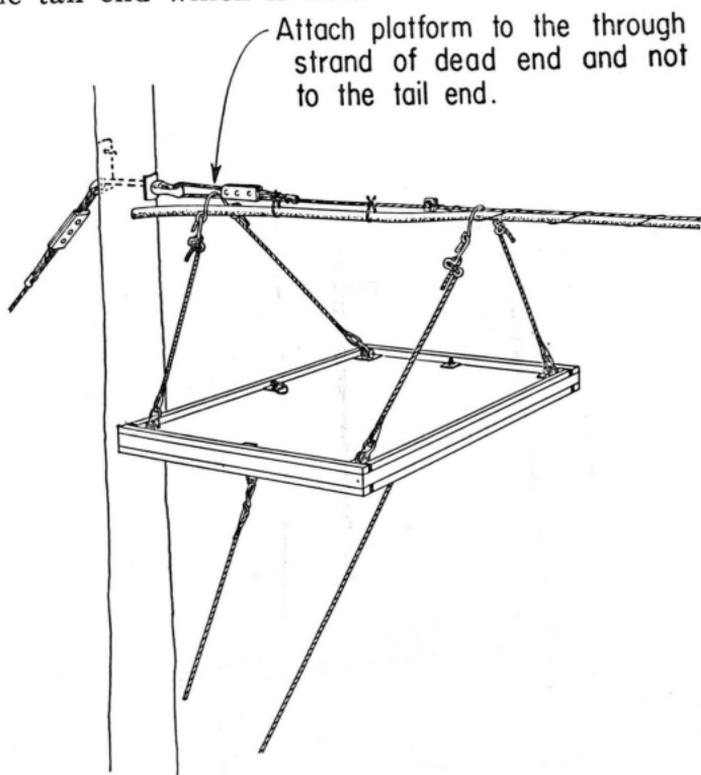
(4) The second pair of hooks or saddle and hook can then be engaged.

2.05

(a) In splicing at poles, the platform hooks can usually be installed as shown below. When platforms equipped with O type hooks are placed in this way, the hooks at the pole need not be interlocked.



(b) At dead-end poles, the hooks should be attached to the through end of the strand, as illustrated, rather than on the tail end which is held in the three-bolt clamp.



2.06 Before tying the guy ropes unfasten the handline and level the platform. The method of leveling the platform and of tying the guy ropes is covered in another section of the Practices.

2.07 After the platform has been installed, disconnect the safety strap from the pole or ladder and strand and attach the free snap hook to the strand before climbing onto the platform. Then before working on the platform, disengage the snap on the strand, and pass the free end of the safety strap through the other D ring before attaching this snap to the suspension strand.

### 3. REMOVING PLATFORM

#### 3.01 REMOVAL—TWO MEN:

When two men remove the platform proceed as follows:

- (1) The man operating the handline should stand near the pole or ladder but not directly under the platform.

- (2) The man on the pole or ladder should attach the handline to the strand approximately one foot from the pole or ladder and engage the handline hook in the Dee ring of the platform.
- (3) The man on the ground unties the guy ropes from the pole or ladder.
- (4) He then raises the platform to permit the man above to remove the support rope hooks from the strand near the pole or ladder.
- (5) The man on the ground lowers the platform to a vertical position. The man on the pole moves the handline to within 8 inches of the second pair of hooks, and engages the handline in the hook on the platform.
- (6) The man on the ground raises the platform so that the man above can remove the second pair of hooks from the strand. The platform is then lowered to the ground and the handline removed.

### 3.02 REMOVAL—ONE MAN:

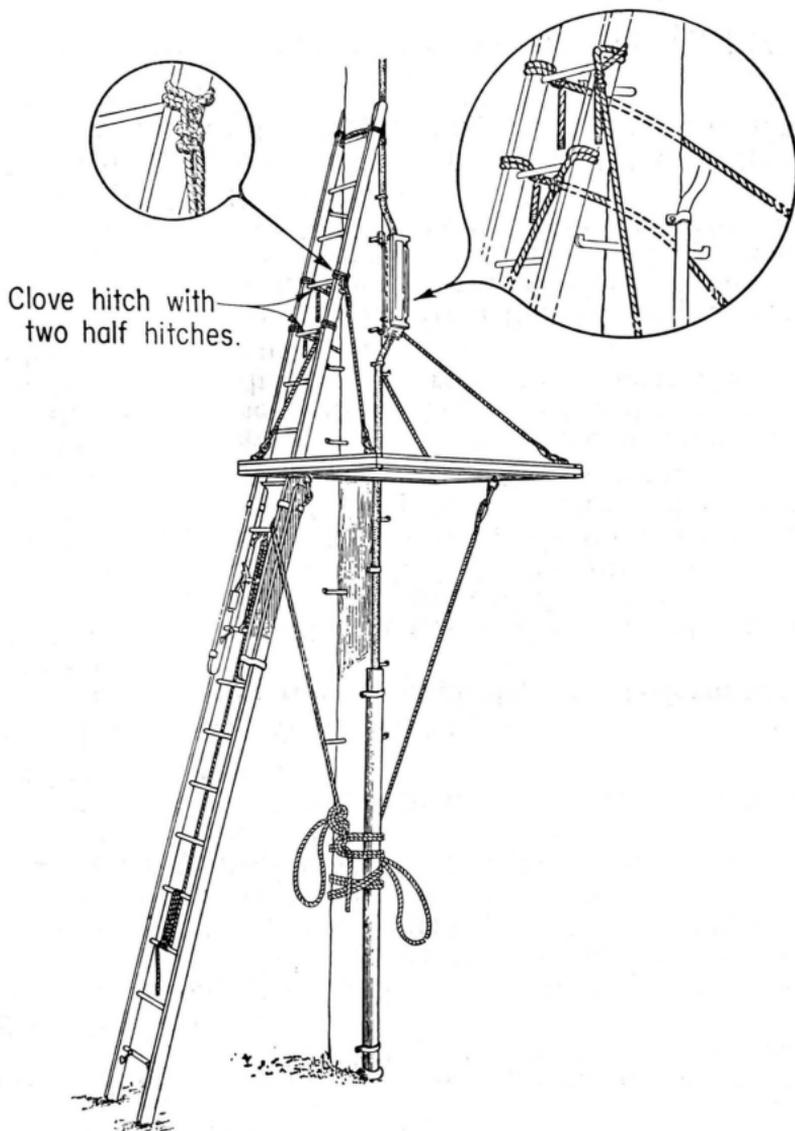
The same operations as in placing the platform are used in reverse order:

- (1) Tie off the handline at the base of the pole or ladder leaving enough rope to suspend the platform in a vertical position from the block. Untie the guy ropes.
- (2) Climb the pole or ladder and move the block to within about 6 inches of the pole or ladder and engage the handline hook in the Dee ring of the platform.
- (3) Raise the platform a little with the handline and tie the handline securely to the pole or ladder at the working level. Then the support rope hooks near the pole or ladder can be disengaged.
- (4) Then untie the handline from the pole or ladder at the working level and lower the platform to a vertical position. After this, move the handline block to within about a foot of second pair of hooks and engage the handline in the hook on the platform.
- (5) Then disengage the second pair of hooks from the strand. After descending the pole, lower the platform to the ground.

## 4. INSTALLING A PLATFORM WITHOUT ATTACHING TO STRAND

4.01 When it is necessary to work at a location where it is impracticable to suspend the platform from the strand make a rope sling above the desired level of the platform to attach the handline block. Raise the platform and hang it from the ladder as shown. The support ropes should be attached to

the side rails of the ladder by means of a clove hitch and two half hitches. One of the guy ropes should be passed around the side rail of the ladder in order to hold the platform close to the pole.



## 5. SUPERSEDED TYPES

5.01 The superseded 52-inch and 64-inch Closed Aerial Platforms are installed and removed in the same manner as outlined for the C Aerial Platform.