

MIUCC



MINI-MANUAL

## PREFACE TO HANDBOOK

To the readers of the Whippet News and friends we would like to present for your use the beginning of the Whippeteers Handbook. Many people entering the Whippet World for the first time have always had hundreds of questions, as to how do you get your dog to course or chase a rabbit tail, where do you get those colorful racing jackets or what if your dog runs on a track with gravel, what do you do about keeping his paws from being sore or his pads from being torn. These are but a few of the problems that confront the novice and in some cases someone that has been in dogs for awhile still has questions. We have tried to compile some of this information in a booklet form so that you can use this as a ready reference.

We would like to thank the people who have contributed so much of their time and effort to compiling this information: To Mr. Selwyn Blackstone who has been in Whippets and we mean in Whippets, for many years, for his contribution on training. To Mr. Bill Tetzlaff for his diagrams and information on the construction of the racing boxes. This alone takes more than a passing knowledge in carpentry work. Many hours were spent over the drawing board before ever a hammer or nail was picked up. To Mrs. Judy Morgan, for her patterns on the construction of racing jackets. As this is an important piece of equipment. An ill fitting jacket can be the cause of your winning or losing a dog race. And to Mr. Gary Morgan, who has been in dogs for more years than he cares to remember, for his schematics on the electric lure. This particular piece of equipment is the foundation of your training program and one of the most important pieces of equipment at a race meet.

To the people mentioned above the Editors say thank you again for your efforts and we sincerely hope you will thank them too for finally putting in your hands a source of information. We know that only a few of your questions may be answered or we may have forgotten some but we have made an inroad into setting up a reference.

THE EDITORS OF THE MWCC  
ANTIOCH, ILL.

## GENERAL TRAINING HINTS

BY: SELWYN BLACKSTONE

A winning Whippet on the race track is, for the most part, due to it's genetic make-up. A Whippet running at the peak of it's ability is strictly up to you. First pick lines that have been proven to produce speed. There is no tried and true way of making a choice, but this is certainly the biggest contributing factor: Bloodlines ! Do not pick a short coupled animal, or one that is too well bent in the stifles. The back should be long, covering a lot of ground; thigh muscles broad; longshoulders with good angulation will contribute to greater reach and stride; pasterns should not be straight but should be flexible to give adaptability to the track surface; the feet should not be like cats' feet but should be well-knuckled with thick pads.

Training should begin at the puppy level, as soon as interest is displayed, to savage the lure, play tug-of-war, catch, etc. This will save much work later on. For the next step, add the lure to a piece of string and drag it in front of the pup, enticing him to catch it. Do remember to use more than one type of lure, and always let it be caught. The pole with the lure attached to approximately six feet of cord is next. Sweep the lure in circles just ahead of the dog, being careful not to go to great a distance. You'll have to learn to read your dog's fatigue ratio. It is better to have them prop (put the brakes on) the lure than to outdistance them to greatly. And as always, let them catch it regularly. They should rapidly progress to the point of avidly chasing even the bare string. It is of great importance that they be on the lure by the time they are let out of the training track. Once you start using the pole, it is time to start pointing out to the young pups that there is a time for business-like behavior and a time to play. Do not practice litter-mates together unless you are positive they will be fully attentive to the lure. It is far more preferable to run them individually. Teach your dog to adapt to strange things before you get it on the track. You can muzzle- (racing-type) brake him at home or in the car. Also, acquaint him with the warming blanket and racing jacket. Teach him to walk on a loose lead. Adapt him to anything that will track him to conserve his efforts and energy for chasing the lure.

At the training track, there are a couple of things to keep in mind. It is better to run your dog frequently for shorter distances than for less frequent longer distances. The first time you use a mechanical drag lure (hand-operated or motor-driven), do not just lay the lure in a dead heap directly in front. Take the lure past him, on down the track, and then run it past and release the dog just as it goes by. It is still greatly preferred that they catch the lure rather than have it run away from them. Another point that I consider important, if the dog catches the lure and somehow gets his teeth into it and does not want to let go, DON'T discipline him in an effort to get him to release it.

You must have medication for the eyes. Wipe them clean after every race, just as you clean the feet after every race. Dust particles inflame the eyes easily. Be alert and prepare to treat it.

Obviously, your "kit" will grow as you come across needed items. There is nothing more discouraging than to drive a long way only to find a minor injury, that could have been treatable at track-side, causing you to scratch your entry. Try to foresee every possibility.

Psychology plays an important part in getting a peak performance from your Whippet. Have your competitor as mentally prepared as he is physically. In fact, when one gives it a great deal of thought, the mental side of it is probably more important. Think about the different types of terrain these meets are run over. Boxes are another item as some of the old types are too dark and confuse the dog; some times the door does not rise high and out of sight and can distract, or the door moves too slow.

In conclusion, remember that the mental and physical requirements of a handler to put a top-flight racer on the track are greater than any other segment of the breeds. Be willing to improvise according to each individual animal. BEST OF LUCK!

can see it is quite possible for a D dog with 5 points to end up in a high point race only: Five points for first, 3 for 2nd, 2-1/2 for 3rd, 2 for fourth, 1-1/2 for 5th and 1 for 6th place.

The 3rd and 4th heats are set up in the same manner as the second.

Puppies are scored 5,3,2 for the first heat with no high point race. In the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th heats, the high point race is established and it is scored 8,5,3.

An owner has certain responsibilities in any race meet. His entry should be sent in on time and be complete with all the information requested. The birthdate and sex are quite important for trophy information. Size of course is important. If a dog has been measured 3 times as an adult, this should be stated too. It need not be measured again. If a limit class is available and the dog qualifies, include this. Any special class should be explained on the entry. There is usually not an extra fee for extra classes, with the exception of Futurity or sometimes a sweepstakes. These have special rules and are so specified.

It is the owner's responsibility to check the board as soon as it is up, to be sure all his dogs are listed. If one has been omitted, the secretary should be notified immediately, since she is NOT responsible for dogs omitted. If a dog is left out of a heat, it is not allowed to race farther for that meet, so it's important to check. Errors can happen, especially when the secretary has many things to do.

Racing moves faster if owners have their own jackets. It moves faster if owners have their dogs ready before the heat begins, especially if they own several dogs. DOGS SHOULD BE AT THE PADDOCK AS SOON AS THEY ARE CALLED. THE PADDOCK JUDGE MUST BE TOLD AS SOON AS THE OWNER AND HIS DOG HAVE ARRIVED AT THE PADDOCK. An owner with dogs in consecutive races can have someone hold one while he takes the other one down. All dogs are to be MUZZLED before they are released from the paddock. The only exception to this rule, and IT MUST BE SO STATED BY THE SECRETARY, is when the heat is extreme and the secretary deems it better for the welfare of the animals.

All dogs should go to the boxes at once. Dogs are put in the boxes and the owner must return to beyond the finish line, to catch his dog. It's not advisable to stand close to the finish line as the dogs will slow down as they approach. This could cause a dog to lose his placing or worse, cause serious injury by hitting an owner. Dogs should be caught and taken into the paddock before their muzzles are removed.

Owners are, of course, not allowed to stay at the boxes but when walkers are used instead of owners, it is sometimes permitted for them to leave the track area and return during the race.

The officials needed to operate a race meet are many and they too, must be trained. The Box Operator and Lure Operator must work together. The lure must be kept in front of the dogs without let-

6. Class. ARM, dogs meeting the show standard for height, etc. as written in the standard of the breed. Puppy, dogs under 14 months of age and over 6 months. Limit, dogs under a specific height. Hurdle, dogs who will jump over barriers placed across the track. Open, dogs under 24 inches at the shoulder. Coursing, mechanical rabbit, in a zig zag course over a straight one.
7. Track. Desired length 250 yards, 200 for the specific course with 50 yards or less to stop.
8. Jacket. A garment worn by the dogs of specific color for the position he is placed in for a race. Six colors for six numbers.
9. Muzzle. Made of leather or plastic preferably to protect the dogs while racing. Must be made with adequate air space and not cause the dog breathing problems.
10. Race Secretary. Individual responsible for taking entries, working the paper duties required, reporting results to the Nat'l Race Secretary, and The Whippet News.
11. Measuring Committee. Three people who measure and record with the secretary the height of each dog in the meet.
12. Judges Sheets. Papers used by finish line or foul judges to record the finish or foul in a race.
13. Lure. Machine used to pull fox tail or fur or such object as might cause the dogs to chase.
14. Boxes. Enclosure for dogs to race from giving each an equal start. Each dog is placed in an individual stall corresponding to the number on his jacket.
15. Score Sheets. These give dogs name, owners name, corresponding jacket number, finish, points won, points accumulated and total points.
16. Points: Placement of dogs in a race result in points given for the first 3 places in grades B thru D and to all 6 places for A or high point adult races. Puppy races for 3 places at all times.
17. ARMPoints: Points awarded toward a merit award for dogs who win a National point meet. 15 points give a merit award and this dog may no longer receive points toward the award tho he may still compete and win other prizes. The points move down to the next dog in line. Points vary with the size of the meet, ie/ dogs entered in ARM class.
18. Foul: The turn of the head off the lure, contact with intent and turn of the head.
19. Bump: Legal contact with another dog, without turn of head.
20. Unsighted: Dog or dogs losing sight of the lure.
21. Rerun: Repeat of a specific race.
22. Prop: Dog anticipates finish line or change in direction of lure causing him to begin to slow down before the end of the race.
23. Finish Line: Marked line across the track, 200 yards for adults, 150 yards for puppies-from the boxes.

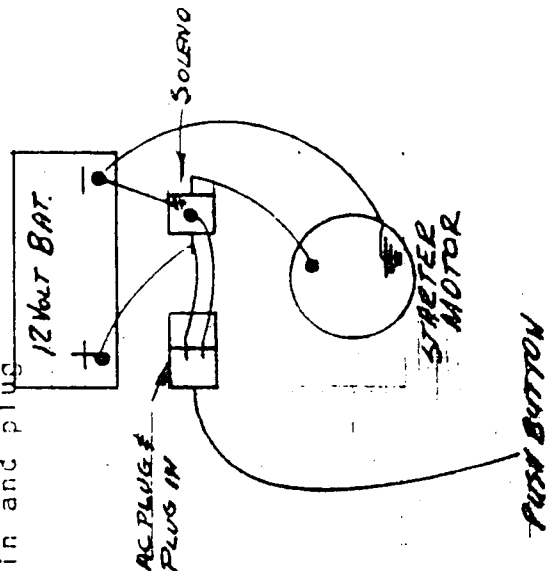
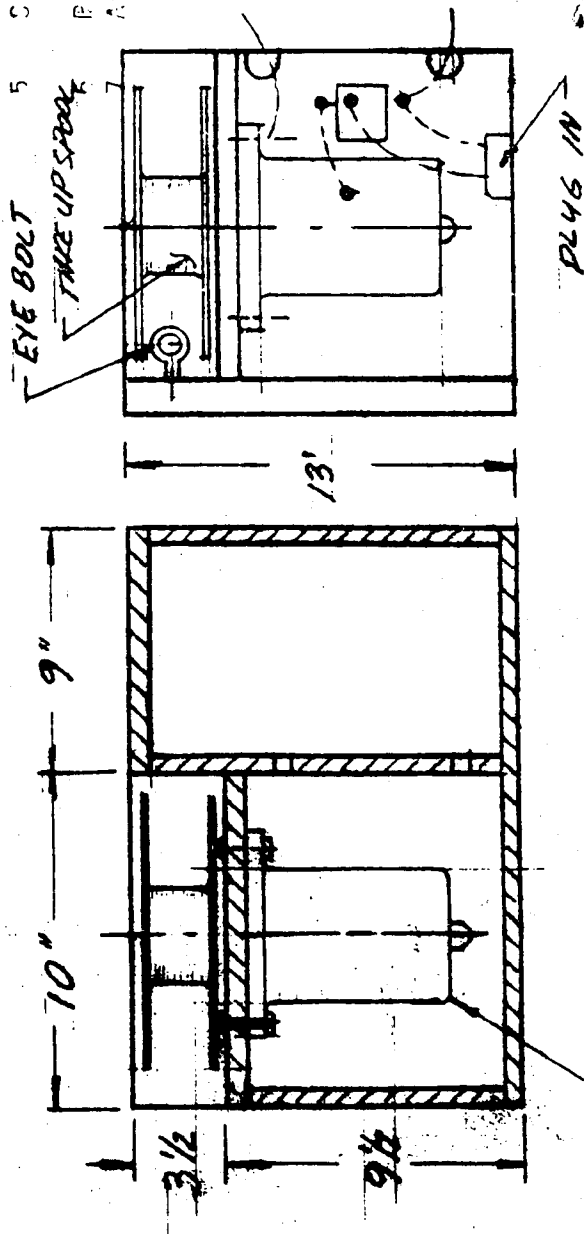
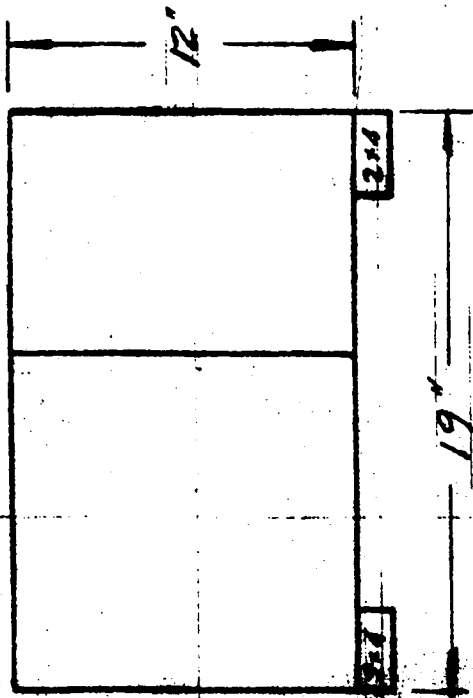
ELECTRIC LURE

Instructions for building lure box

1. Box sides are made of 1 x 12 Pine
2. Box top and bottom of 1/2 inch external plywood.
3. Bottom supports of 2 x 4 s 13 inch long  
I recommend you use glue & screw all joints Use a Piano hinge on lid

Parts list

1. Take up spool 2 1/4 wide x 9 outside Dia x 4 Dia. hub (Alum)
2. Ford Starter Motor with 5/8 Dia long shaft (less Bendix)
3. Ford Starter solenoid
4. Battery cables
5. Several feet No 10 or 12 stranded copper wire
- Push button switch
- AC Plug in and plug



FORD STARTER WITH LONG SHAFT 5/8 DIA

NOTE: Cord with switch and plug made to desired length

PLACE ON FOLD

SEAM ALLOWANCE 1/2 INCH

CUT 2  
WHITE

CUT 2  
WHITE

Sew one side of  
VELVET LITE

CUT 2  
BLACK

Sew ELASTIC, EXTENSION  
to other side of VELVET

MATCH TO PART 2





# RACE JACKET

ON FOLD

CUT 2  
WHITE

SEAM ALLOWANCE TRINER

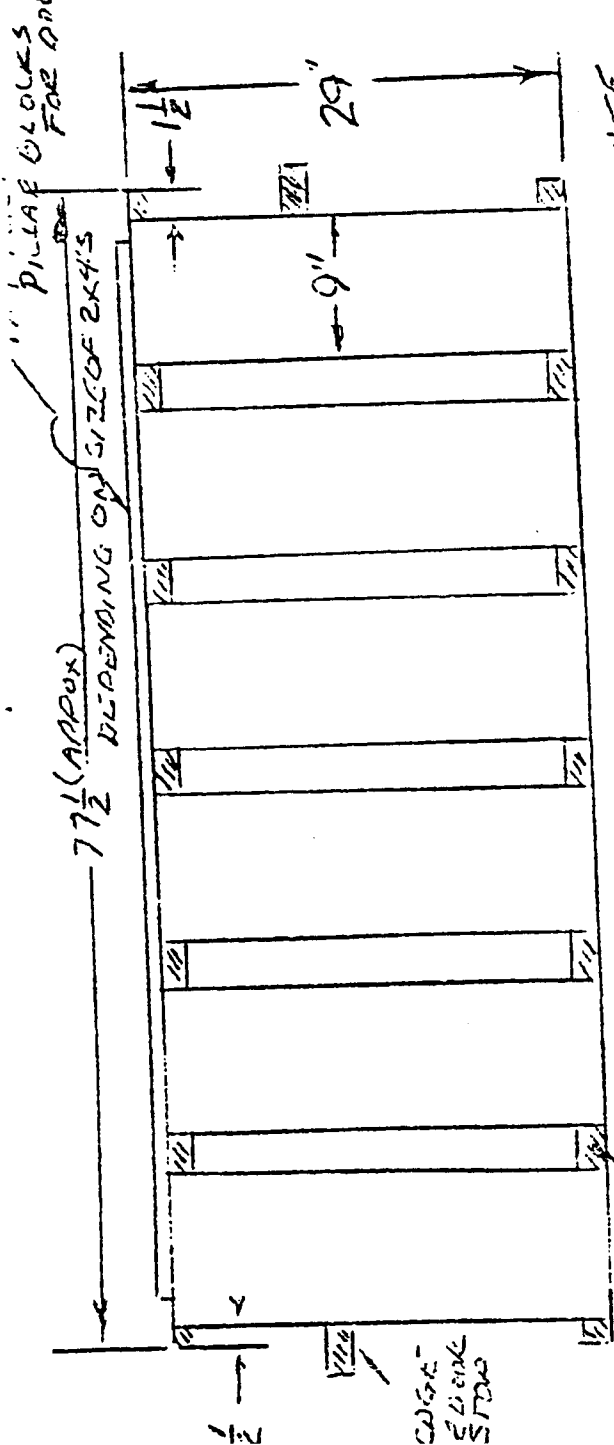
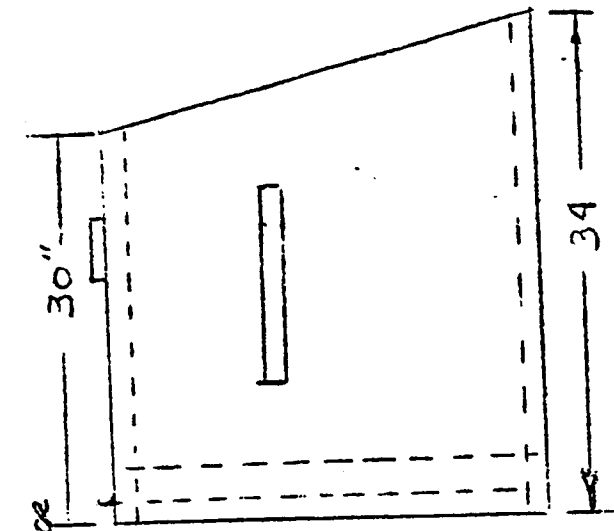
BY Judy Morgan

MATCH TO PART 1

MATCH TO H.I. WEAVING

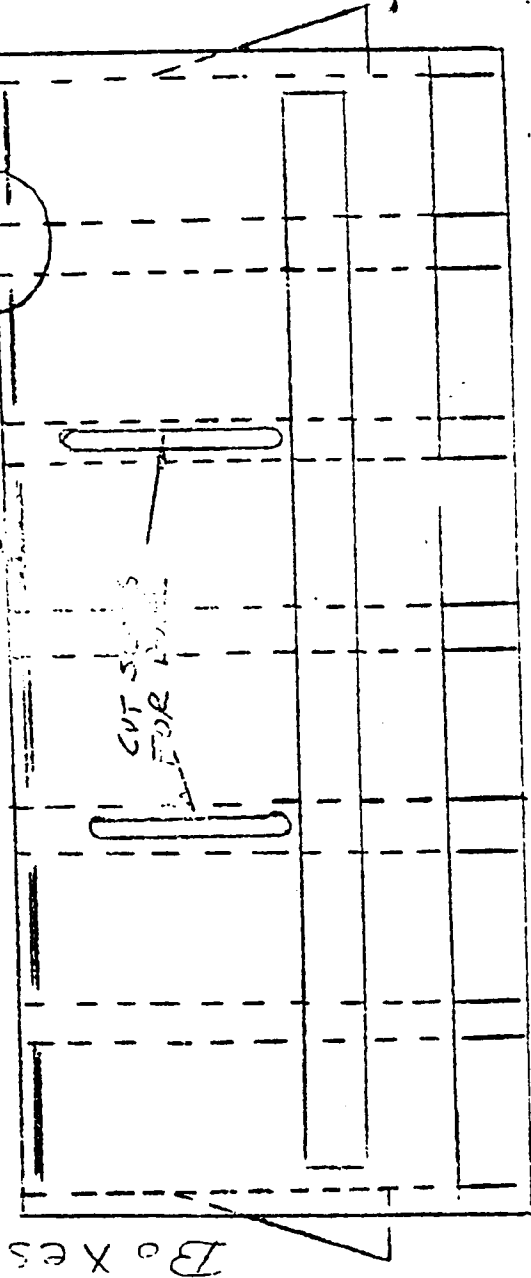
CUT 2  
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CUT 2  
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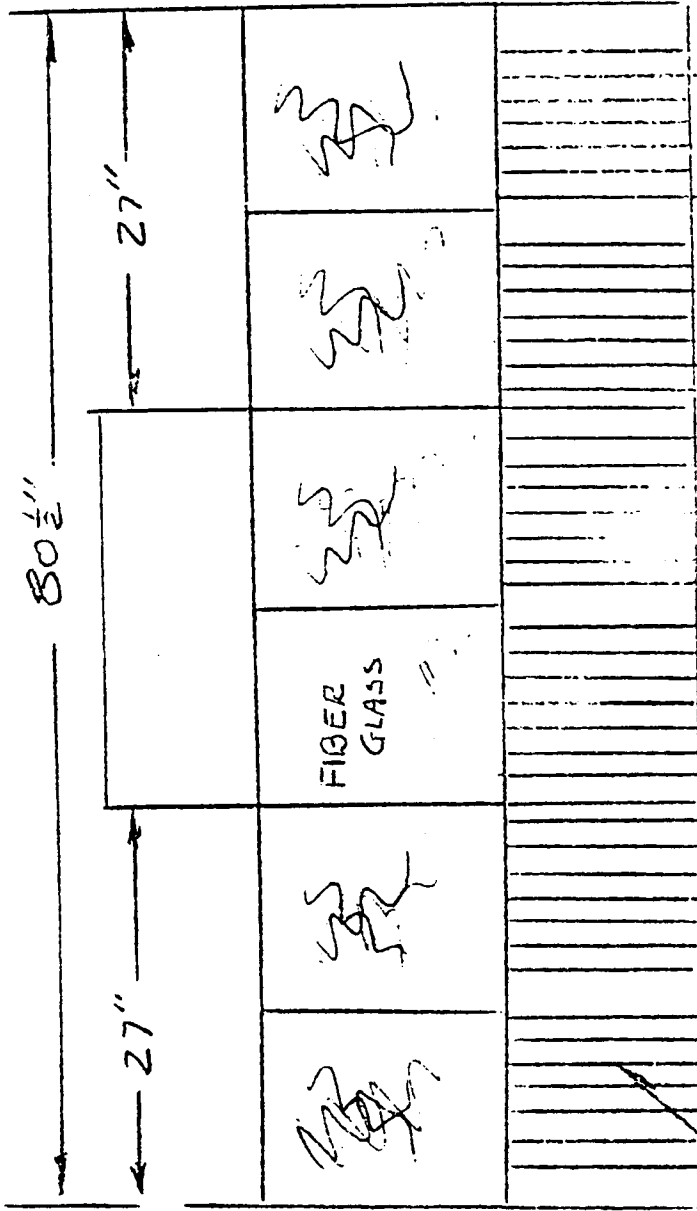
NOTE

1x2 WITH 1/2 DADO SLOT FOR REAR DOOR

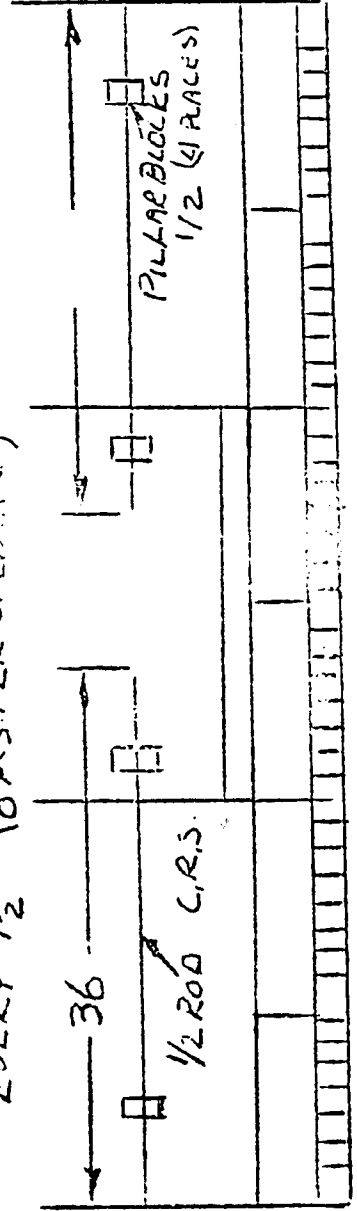


REAR DOOR 1/2" PLYWOOD TO FIT  
LEAVE BOTTOM OPEN OPEN SO DOGS TAILS DONT GET IN

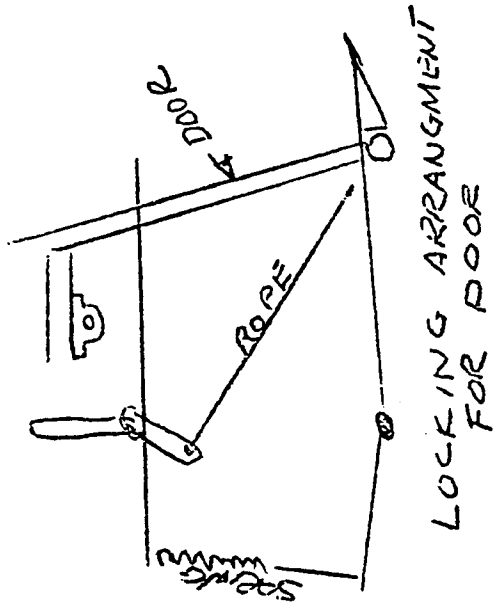
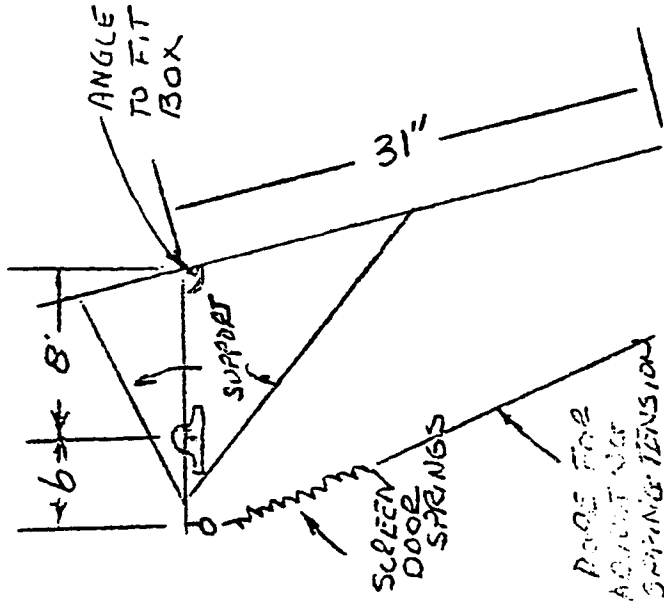
1. Top - 1/2" Plywood, 30 x 77 1/2 (approx.)
2. Outside, sides - 1/2" Plywood
3. Inside, Partition 1/4" Plywood (10 pieces)
4. Bottom - 1/2" Plywood 34 x 77 1/2 (approx.)
5. Bottom - 2x4's & 2x2's 1/2" x 2" AS SHOWN
6. Wedges made of 2x4-1/2" x 1/2"



4 STEEL TUBING 10" LONG EVERY 1/2" (6 AS PER OPENING)



GALE FOR BOXES



DOOR FRAME MADE OF 1/2" CONDUIT

FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE ME  
 GARY MORGAN 610 WOLFE RD, LAGRANGE, IL 60525  
 TEL: 708-244-1710

# Fig I STANDARD $\frac{3}{4}$ " SQUARE TUBING

HEATED AND BENT AT POINTS 1/2 HEAT WITH

ACETYLENE TORCH AND BEND ON FLAT SURFACE

TO INSURE OF TUBING NOT TURNING. IF TUBING

TURNS A GOOD FIT WILL BE DIFFICULT

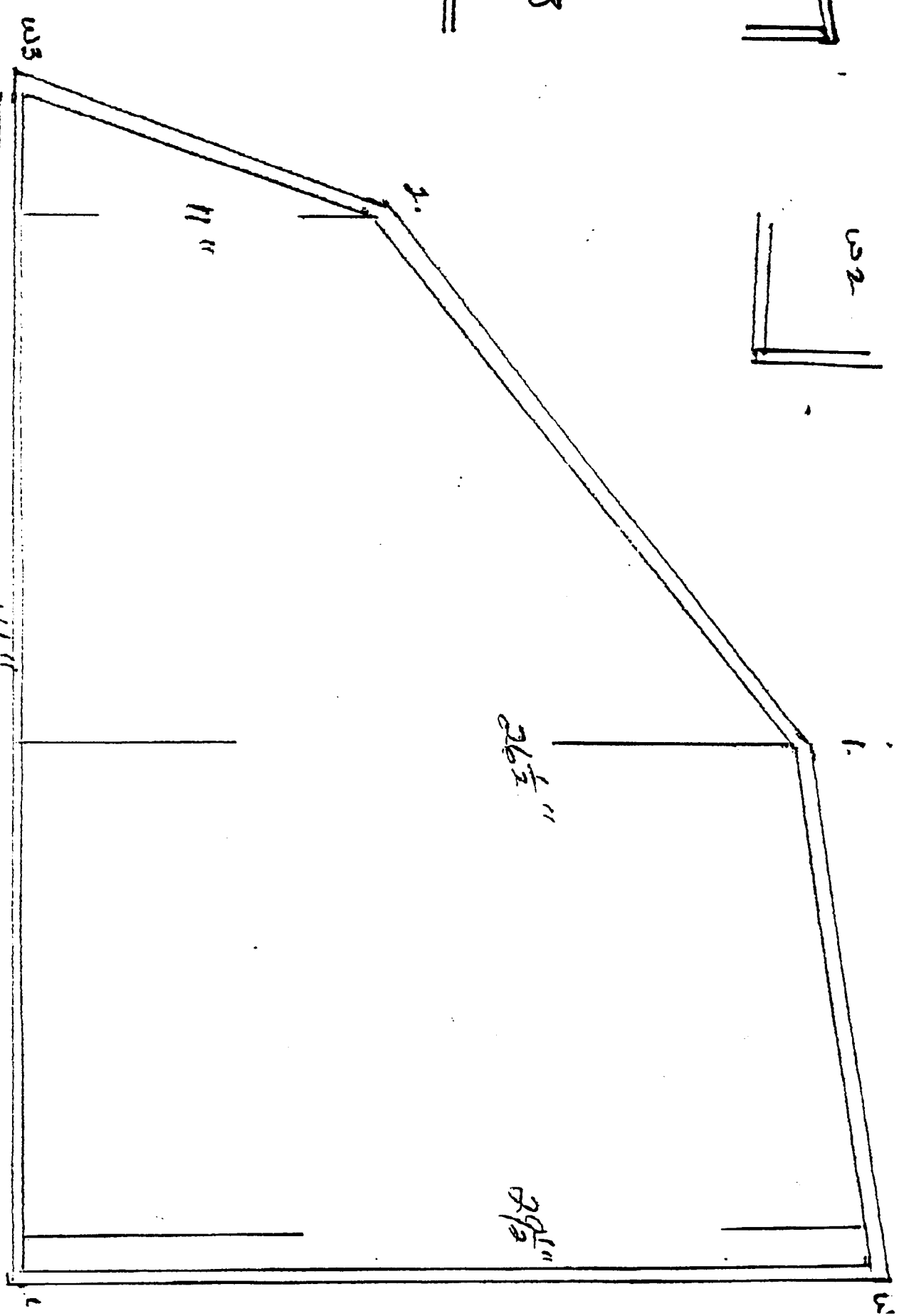
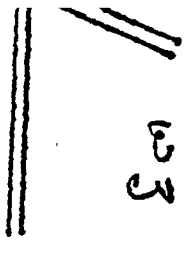
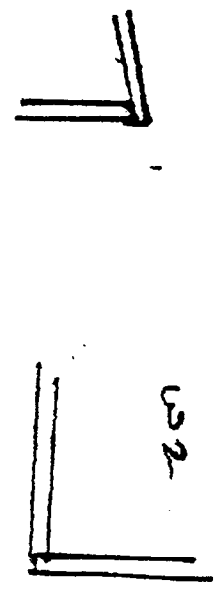
TUBING IS WELDED WITH ARC WELDER  
AT POINTS W1 - W2 - W3 ANGLES SHOULD

CLEAN AND WELL FITTED BEFORE WELDING. AFTER

COMPLETING 12 OF THESE, CUT 6 PIECES  $9\frac{1}{2}$ " LONG  
~~AND~~ 8 PIECES 2" LONG AND 2 PIECES  $3\frac{5}{8}$ " LONG

FIG 5 (STANDING) WILL CRUDLY DEMONSTRATE THE  
USE OF THESE PIECES TO SPACE THE BOXES  
AND TO ALLOW WORKING ROOM BETWEEN BOX  
AND BOX 4 FOR INSTALLING AND REPAIR  
TO THE LOCKING DEVICE.

ST



41"

11"

2.

26 1/2"

29 1/2"

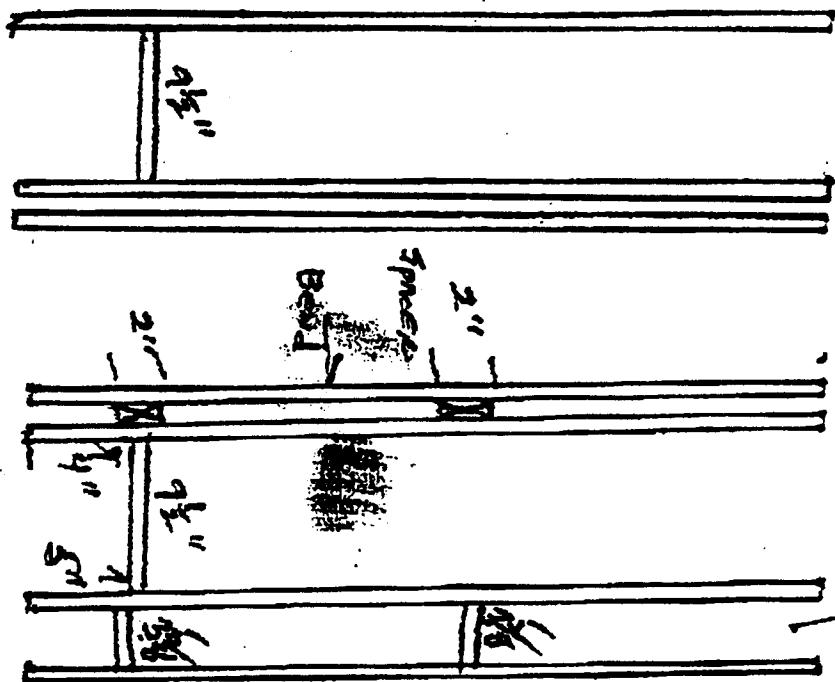
1.

18"

U3

U3

3



$3\frac{5}{8}"$  space To accommodate  
locking Device

4 Bay Bay 53 X 44

6 Bay Bay 76 1/2 X 44

The  $\frac{3}{8}$ " Flat stock absorbs 80% of the  
STRESS . . . and must fit well.

By placing the bottom flush with  
the interior of the tubing and the top flush  
with the outside a strong fit will result.

the pivot bolt is a  $\frac{7}{16}$  tempered bolt with  
a 1" shoulder inserted from the inside  
so the lock nuts are on the exterior.



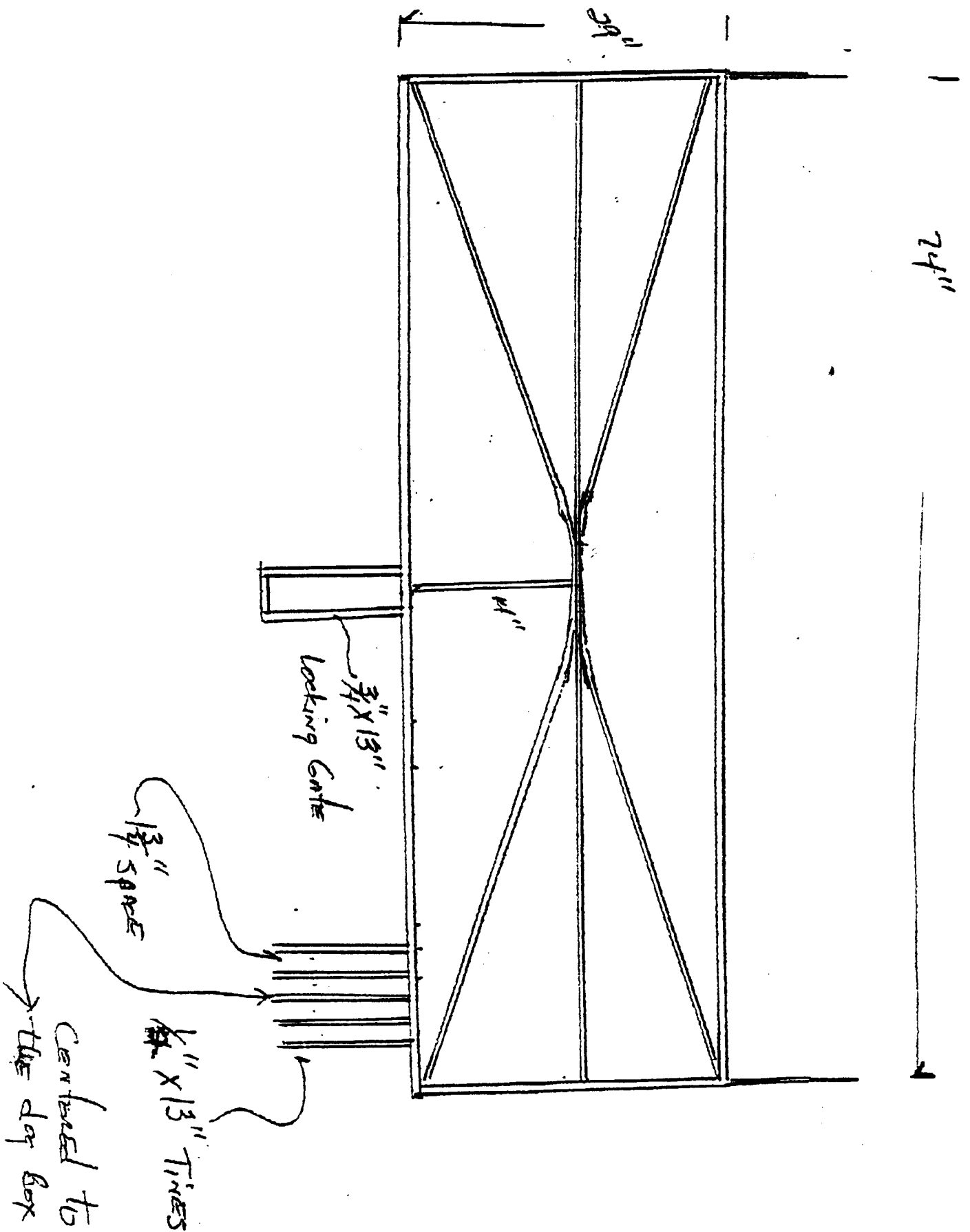


The gate must fit the contours of the box or the locking device will not function and a bigger hazard is that the dogs will be distracted trying to get out the result of a bad fit is that the muzzles will frequently get caught in the end bars and be removed from the dogs.

The rod carries the full measure of weight - tension and never has a rest position so the hole must be exactly centered. Use of a center punch will aid in all drilled holes.

All welded points should be ground smooth and must fit closely to insure strength and reduce the rust factor





ALL  $\frac{3}{4}$ " AND  $\frac{1}{2}$ " Tubing IS STOCK.  
ALL PARTITIONS ARE OF TEMPERED  $\frac{1}{8}$ "

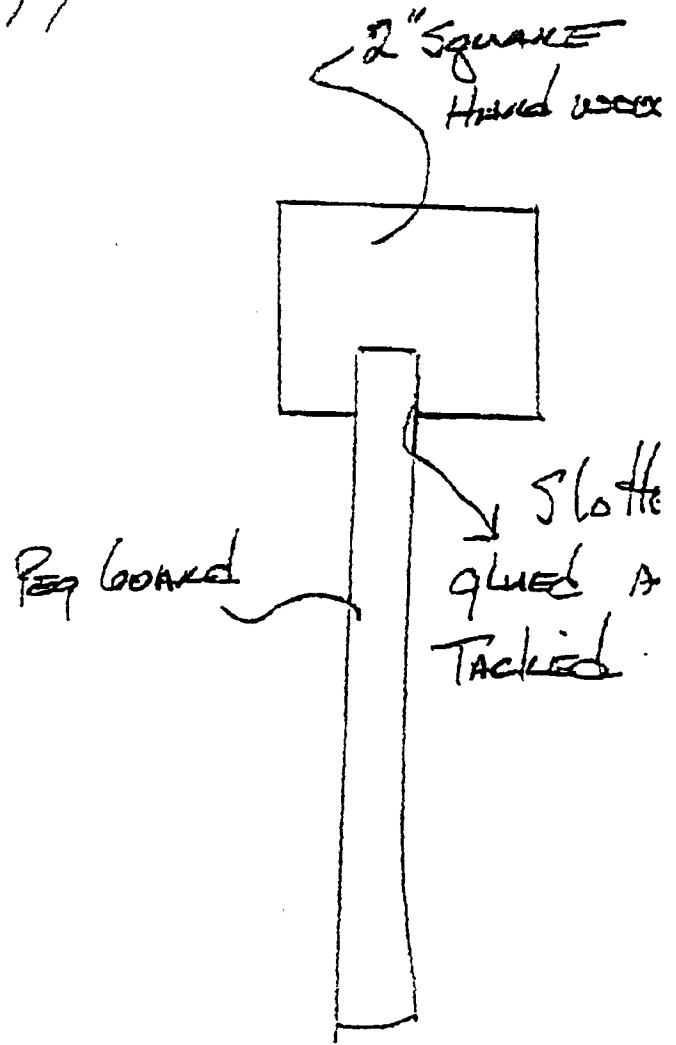
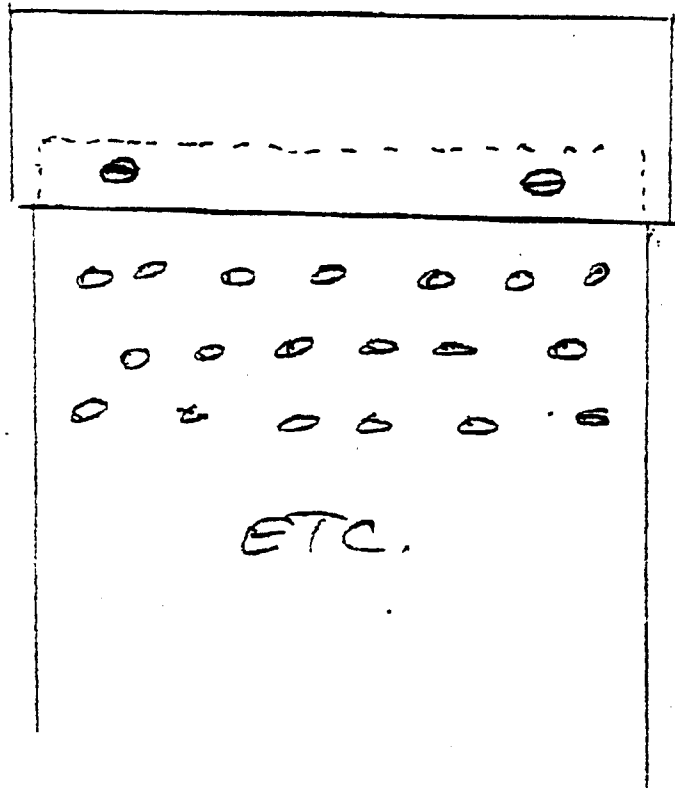
HARD BOARD ATTACHED TO THE FRAME WITH  
POP RIVETS EVERY  $3\frac{5}{8}$ " THIS ALLOWS FOR  
PLENTY OF VERTICAL STRENGTH AND DURABILITY.  
BELOW IS A LIST OF TOOLS AND SUPPLIES  
WITH THESE PRESENT THESE BOXES CAN  
BE BUILT IN 40 MAN HOURS.

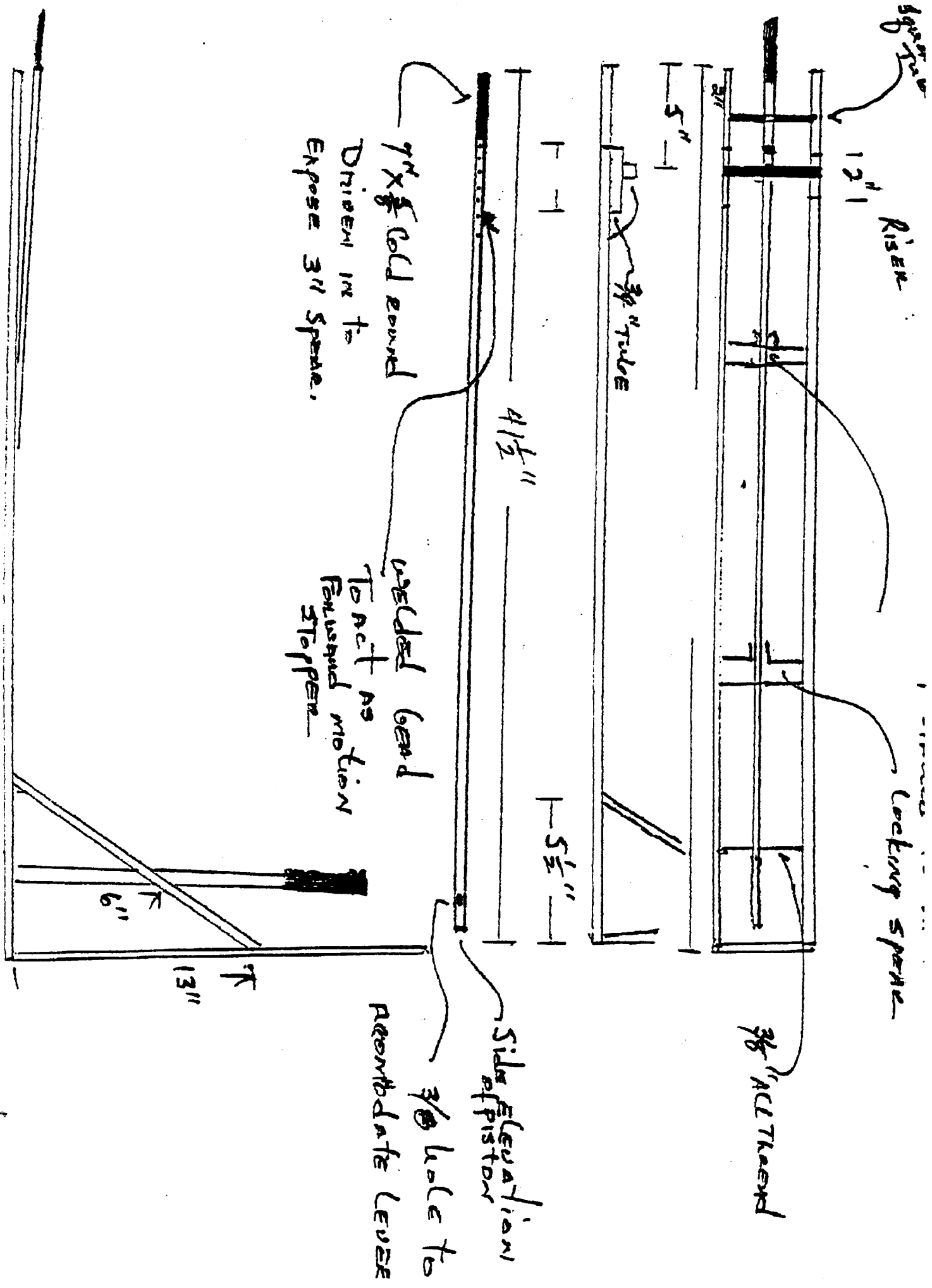
ARC WELDER  
ACETYLENE TORCH  
HAND GRINDER  
HAND DRILL  
 $\frac{1}{16}$   $\frac{3}{8}$   $\frac{1}{8}$  BITS  
SOCKET SET.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{9}{16}$  OPEN END WRENCHES  
POP RIVET GUN

10 SECTIONS  $\frac{3}{4}$ " TUB.  
3 SECTIONS  $\frac{1}{2}$ " TUB.  
1 4'x8' PC MAINLINE.  
4 4'x8' PC TEMPERED HA  
400  $\frac{1}{8}$ x $\frac{3}{8}$  POP RIVETS.  
PAINT  
12 PCS WALL STAND.  
1 PC 4'x8' POP BOARD  
1 PC 2x2 HAND US  
RUBBERIZED STAIR  
RUNN

THE REAR DOORS ARE PEG BOARD  
TO ALLOW MAXIMUM VENTILATION AND LIGHT  
IN THE BOX. THE GUIDES ARE  
SHELVING STANDARDS CUT TO FIT.

THE 2" SQUARE WOOD SERVES AS  
HANDLE AND STOPPER. THE HANDLE SHOULD  
BE PAINTED TO IDENTIFY PROPER BOX





The locking device is a simple lever operated spear engaging the gate. As shown the spear should move only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches forward motion stopped by a bead welded to the rod rearward motion impaired by the  $\frac{3}{8}$ "

REAR CROSS MEMBER

$\frac{1}{2}$ " tubing elevates the front end of the spear this is held in place with 2  $\frac{3}{4}$ " wood screws. Removal of this piece facilitates repair or replacement of locking

SPEAR OR COMPONENTS

The lever is centered on  $\frac{3}{8}$ " all three by 2 nuts acting as lock nuts on each side of the lever use of a bicycle grip the lever operation should give the operator

AN EASY TASK.