

MERCUISER 215E/215H STEERING LEVER BOLT and NUT TORQUE

(Attach Bulletin Reference Sticker to PP 2F-4 and 2G-6 of Your Service Manual.)

CONTACT all of your MerCruiser 215E and 215H Power Package customers IMMEDIATELY and advise them that you will conduct an inspection of the unit's steering mechanism. Also inspect all 215E and 215H Stern Drives in your stock for a loose steering lever.

WARNING! If Steering Lever Loosens, It Will Tend to Wear the Splined Shaft, and Steering Control Will Be Lost.

TO CHECK STEERING LEVER, try to move lever up-and-down (vertically). Steering lever must be firm. If steering lever is firm, place a dab of red paint on end of the steering lever to indicate that the lever has been checked. This will eliminate repeated checking by different dealers.

If steering lever is loose, access holes must be cut through the top flat sides of gimbal housing for torquing steering lever bolt and nut. To cut access holes, proceed as follows:

IMPORTANT: Cut hole perpendicular to the gimbal housing surface which is being drilled.

1. Cut out template (Figure 1, attached).
2. Place template on left flat side of upper gimbal housing (Figure 2, over) to locate and center punch for cutting with 7/8" hole saw. Repeat for right side.
3. After cutting, lubricate 3/4" x 14 NPT pipe tap with grease and tap hole. Use only first 1" of tap threads for proper depth.

NOTE: If a 7/8" hole saw and/or 3/4" x 14 NPT pipe tap is not available, contact your factory branch or distributor for these tools on a loan basis.

4. Use two 5/8" sockets with 3/8" extensions through access holes to torque bolt and nut to 45-50 ft. lbs. (6.22-6.92mkg). If steering lever still is loose in either vertical or horizontal direction after tightening, replace steering arm and splined shaft, following procedures in the MerCruiser Service Manual.
5. Clean grease from threads of access holes with solvent such as kerosene or gasoline.
6. Place General Electric Clear Silicone Seal (available from local hardware store) on threads of access hole and plastic plugs (C-19-58934).
7. Install plugs in access holes and tighten with 9/16" allen wrench.
8. Place a dab of red paint on end of steering lever to indicate that the lever has been checked.

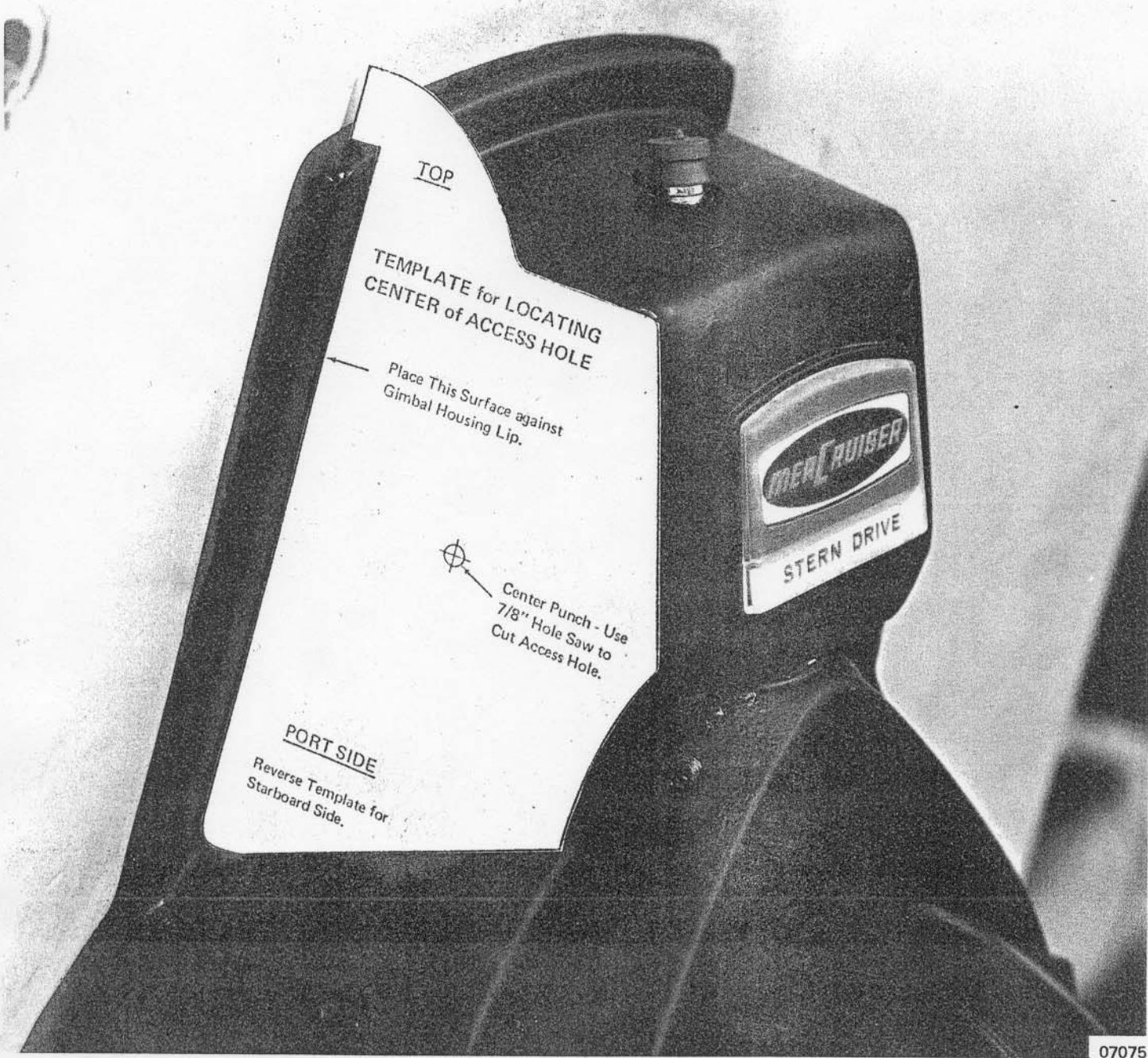
Labor Rate Time Allowance - 1.0 hrs.

C-19-58934

Plug (2 Required)

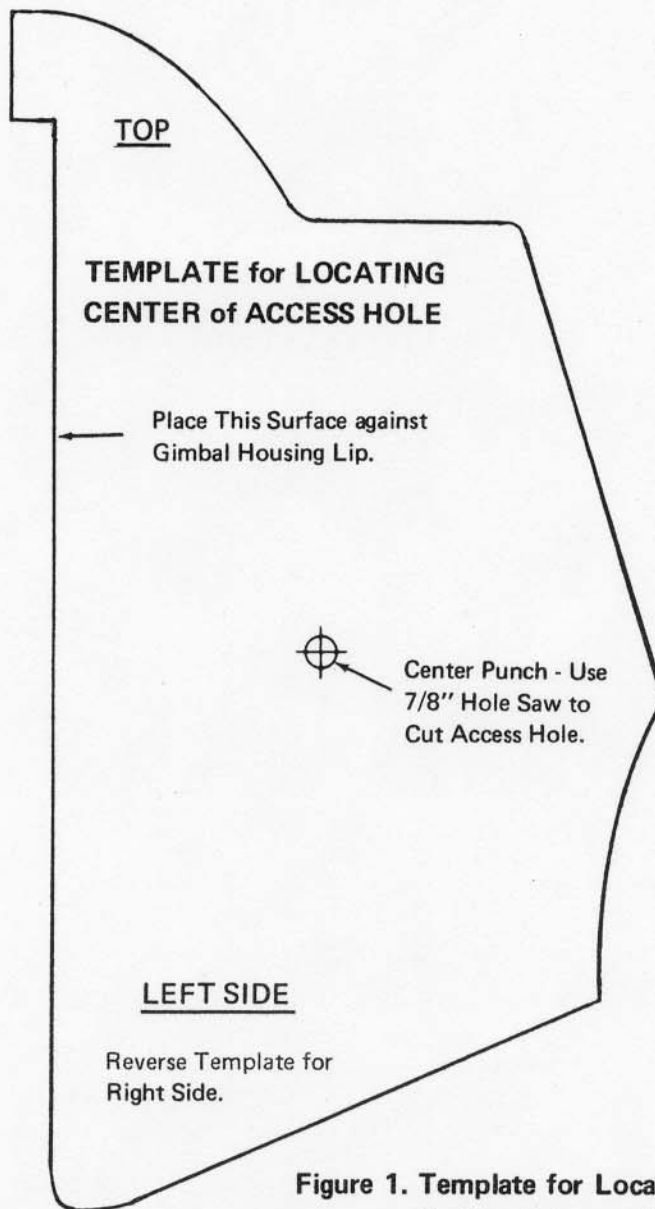
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Figure 2. Template Location on Upper Gimbal Housing



**Figure 1. Template for Locating
Center of Access Hole
- MerCruiser 215E-215H**