



**STERN DRIVES/INBOARD ENGINES**

# service bulletin

NUMBER: 81-21

DATE: 8/12/81

**Subject:** PUSH ROD/ROCKER ARM FAILURES ON  
MCM 370 TRS ENGINE -  
SERIAL NUMBER 5669330 to 5669660

**CIRCULATE TO:**  
SERVICE MANAGER  
PARTS MANAGER  
MECHANICS

We have had reports from the field concerning push rod/rocker arm failures on MCM 370 TRS engines with relatively low hours of operation. Most generally, the push rod will "punch" up thru the rocker arm. In view of this, contact your customers of MerCruiser 370 TRS Power Packages with engines Serial No. 5669330 to 5669660. Have them bring their boat in for inspection of the rocker arms according to the following instructions.

Notice difference in push rod seats ("c" in Figures 1 and 2). The normal seat ("a") DOES NOT have a "creased" area on forward portion of seat while the abnormal seat ("b") does. Also notice how the metal is "stretched" upward around the push rod seat in rocker arm "b".

When repairing a push rod/rocker arm failure, INSPECT ALL ROCKER ARMS for this condition. Factory stock has been inspected, but it is a good idea to inspect the new replacement rocker arms as well as remaining rocker arms on engine(s). Rocker arms can be inspected easily without removing them from the engine. USE ONLY rocker arms that look like "a" in Figures 1 and 2.

If only the rocker arm and push rod have been damaged, REPLACE THE BALL UNIT ALSO. Use Engine Oil Supplement (C-92-78372-12) between the ball unit, rocker arm and push rod. If the camshaft has to be replaced because of damage, replace all hydraulic valve lifters. Pour Engine Oil Supplement over camshaft lobes before installing hydraulic valve lifters to help seat new lifters to camshaft lobes.

A letter is being sent to all MCM 370 TRS owners that have engine Serial No. 5669330 to 5669660. They will be instructed to have a MerCruiser Servicing Dealer inspect the rocker arms. Also, inspect all rocker arms on engines, in the serial number group, that you have in new boats.

Submit warranty claim along with parts to your Regional Distribution Center. Warranty labor rate for inspection (per engine) is 1.5 hours. Plus an additional .1 hours per rocker arm replaced.

Order the following parts (as required) from your Regional Distribution Center.

**B-58041**

**Ball Unit**

**B-72609**

**Rocker Arm**

**B-27-49121**

**Gasket, Rocker Arm Cover**

**C-92-78372-12**

**Engine Oil Supplement**



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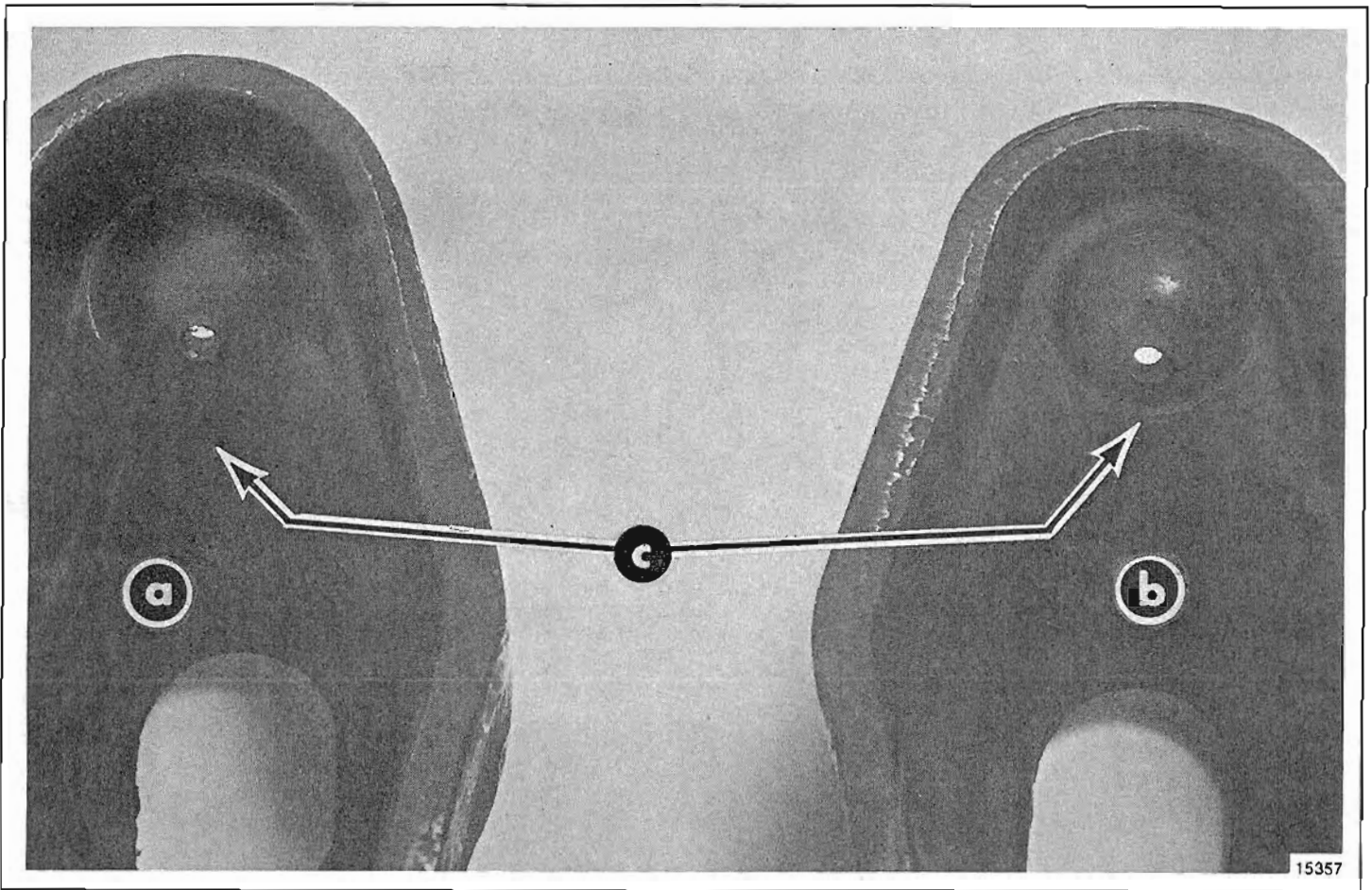
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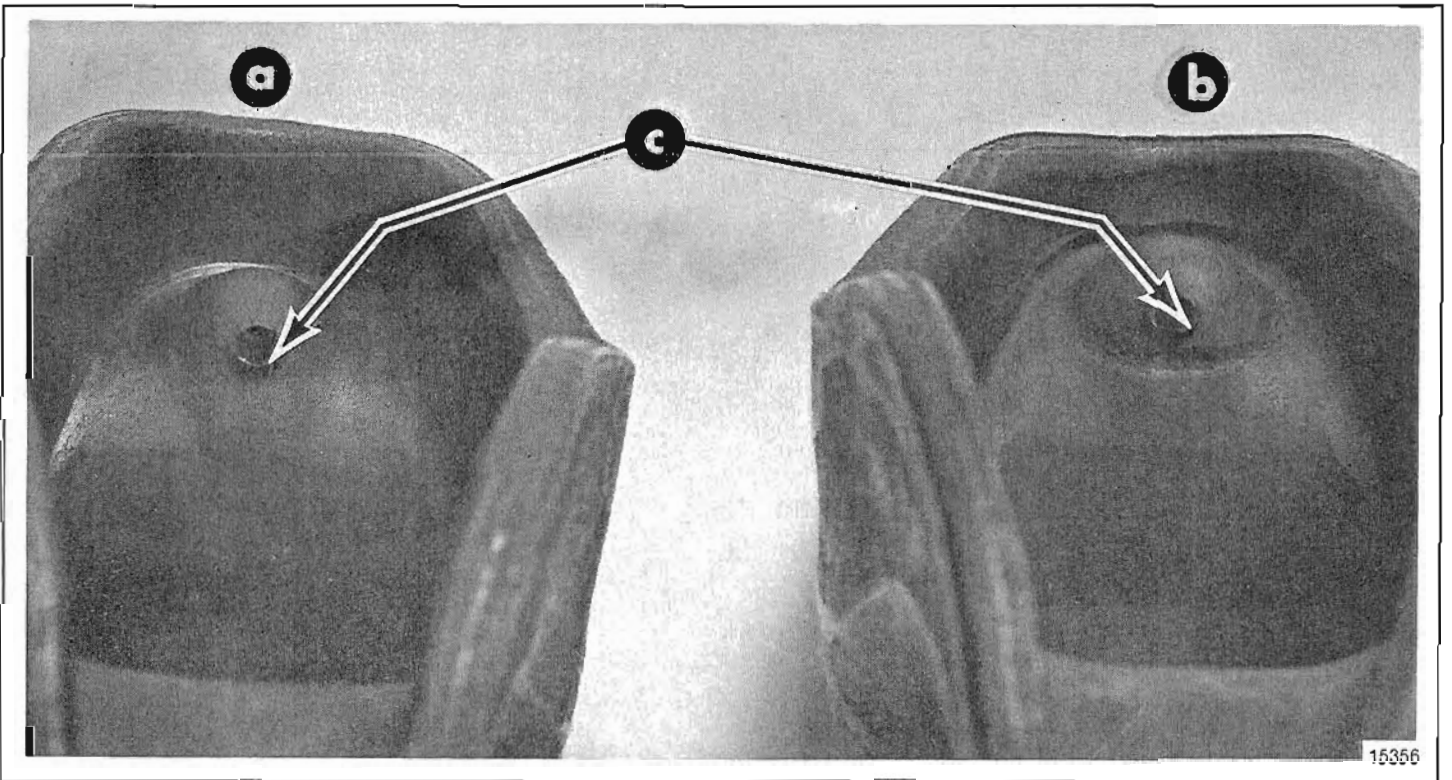


a - Normal Formed Push Rod Seat

b - Abnormal Formed Push Rod Seat

c - Difference in Push Rod Seats

Figure 1. Top View of Rocker Arm



a - Normal Formed Push Rod Seat

b - Abnormal Formed Push Rod Seat

c - Difference in Push Rod Seats

Figure 2. Front, Top View of Rocker Arm

Copy of letter sent to owners.

Dear MerCruiser Owner:

Mercury Marine has determined that an inspection of the inlet and exhaust rocker arms may be necessary in the MerCruiser 370 engine(s) installed in your boat.

We request that you arrange for an immediate inspection of the engine(s) at an authorized MerCruiser Servicing Dealer. He will inspect your engine(s) and is authorized by Mercury Marine to perform the necessary corrections at no charge to you.

We are sorry to cause you this inconvenience, however, we have taken this action in the interest of your boating pleasure and continued satisfaction with our products.

Respectfully,

Mercury Marine  
Service Department