

GEMINI SPACECRAFT • ADVANCED MISSIONS

REPORT NO. B766 ~ 26 MAY 1965

TABLE 3.4-1

ARTIFICIAL GRAVITY OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS

METHOD	PITCH OR YAW SPINNING	THRUSTER	THRUSTER LEVER ARM (FT.)	ROTATED MOMENT OF INERTIA (SLUG-FT. ²)	CREW MEMBER'S HIP ROTATING RADIUS (FT.)	CENTRIFUGAL ACCELERATION (g's)	SPIN RATE (RPM)	ONE SPIN (OR DESPIN) PROPELLANT (LB.)	ONE SPIN (OR DESPIN) BURN TIME (SEC.)	CABLE WEIGHT (LB.)
DIRECTLY-CONNECTED GEMINI - STAGE II	EITHER	MS 1-94.5 LB.	8.0	52,100	9.8	1.0 0.5 0.1	17.3 12.2 5.5	46.3 32.8 14.6	125 88 39	0 0 0
DOCKED GEMINI - AGENA VEHICLE	EITHER	MS 1-94.5 LB.	11.3*	62,000	8.0	1.0 0.5 0.1	19.1 13.9 6.1	63.9 45.2 20.2	172 122 55	0 0 0
	EITHER	GACS 2-23 LB.	17.0	62,000	8.0	1.0 0.5 0.1	19.1 13.9 6.1	29.2 20.7 9.2	159 112 50	0 0 0
	YAW	AACS 2-10 LB.	20.4	62,000	8.0	1.0 0.5 0.1	19.1 13.9 6.1	122.0 88.5 27.3	306 221 96	0 0 0
CABLE-CONNECTED GEMINI-AGENA	EITHER	MS 1-94.5 LB.	152	9,580,000	150.	1.0 0.5 0.1	4.4 3.1 1.4	114.3 80.9 36.2	309 218 98	70 35 35

I_{sp} = 50 LB.-SEC. LB. FOR AACS (AGENA ATTITUDE CONTROL SYSTEM)
 = 250 LB.-SEC. LB. FOR GACS (GEMINI ATTITUDE CONTROL SYSTEM)
 = 255 LB.-SEC. LB. FOR MS (GEMINI MANEUVER SYSTEM)

*EFFECTIVE ROTATIONAL THRUST IS .675 OF ACTUAL THRUST

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3.4 (Continued)

system provides a better simulation of artificial gravity and less danger of vertigo because of the larger radius and correspondingly lower angular velocity. More effective head-to-foot gravity forces result from using a parawing bridle to obtain the Gemini orientation shown in Figure 3.4-3.

The reliability of the cable method is lower than for the other methods as a result of the cable attachment and handling facilities required. To minimize the amount of additional equipment required, cable reel-in provisions might be omitted.

The propellant requirements listed in Table 3.4-1 do not include allowances for spinning during extension of the cable; it is assumed spinning is accomplished at the final cable extension. Partial spin-up prior to and during cable extension, which will probably be required to eliminate slack cable conditions, might double the amounts of propellant needed.

Since rendezvous is not required with Stage II of the GLV as the counterweight, equipment such as the rendezvous radar will not be needed. Elimination of this equipment and a reduction of the propellant for the orbit attitude and maneuver system results in adequate weight and space allowance for the cable and its associated equipment. With the Agena as the counterweight, a separate Agena section adjacent to the target docking adapter would be provided for the cable and its associated equipment.

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3.5 Simulation of LEM Rendezvous - The Gemini flight test of Apollo LEM-CM rendezvous would evaluate the rendezvous phase of the Apollo mission using actual LEM equipment or modified Gemini hardware. During rendezvous, the rendezvous radar and inertial measuring unit aboard the LEM are used to accumulate range data of the CM relative to the LEM. These data are processed by the LEM guidance computer, where the required velocity change for rendezvous is computed. The LEM propulsion system is then used to change the LEM velocity vector so that a collision course with the Apollo CM is attained.

In the rendezvous test flight, the Gemini spacecraft would have the role of the LEM vehicle with the velocity change computations performed aboard the Gemini and the Gemini propulsion system used to execute the velocity change maneuvers. The Apollo CM would be simulated by either a Gemini Agena Target launched into orbit prior to the Gemini, or by a smaller target launched with the Gemini and separated from the Gemini while in orbit.

With Apollo hardware available for the flight, the LEM computer, IMU, and radar would be used aboard the Gemini to compute the velocity change maneuvers. Also, an Apollo CM transponder would be installed on the rendezvous target vehicle. Should Apollo equipment not be ready for the test flight, Gemini equipment, including a modified Gemini computer, would be used to perform the same operations as the LEM hardware. If only some of the Apollo hardware could be used for the test flight, e.g., the radar, then modified Gemini equipment could be substituted and the flight performed using a combination of Gemini and Apollo equipment.

A preliminary estimate of the added weight of the Apollo equipment is 223 lbs. This includes the computer, power supply, IMU, radar, and Gemini structural changes. This weight addition is within the launch weight capabilities for a two day Gemini rendezvous mission. For example, several spacecraft have experiments with weights

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3.5 (Continued)

in excess of the Apollo equipment weights. Therefore, this equipment can be incorporated into future spacecraft without affecting mission capability. If modified Gemini equipment without any Apollo hardware is used, the weight increase would be a 25 lb. auxiliary tape memory for the Gemini computer.

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3.6 Structural Assembly in Orbit - The antenna to be erected in orbit is shown in Figure 3.6-1. The manual erection of this type of structure by EVA will be most valuable in the performance of assembly, maintenance, inspection, and alignment of such items as:

Radiators

Sensors

Solar arrays

Gimbal mounts

Fuel lines, valves, and connections

Antennas

Propulsion systems

Docking ports

3.6.1 Types of In-Space Operations - Man's role, as applied to the various types of in-space assembly separations, is discussed in the following paragraphs.

A. Fluid or Gas Transfer Connections and Large Electrical Connections -

Manual connection and manual activation are preferred for simplification of these operations. However, automatic connections may be desirable for safety reasons. Visual inspection of the connection will be important.

B. Assembly of Heavy Structures

1. For Space Station build-up or assembly, manual operations are desirable in order to omit complex hinges, locks, and automatic or motor driven fasteners. However, built-in positioning and holding devices will be needed because of the inability to position and hold large masses by hand.
2. Large Telescopes - Manual alignment and calibration is desirable.

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ANTENNA ERECTION AND ASSEMBLY IN ORBIT

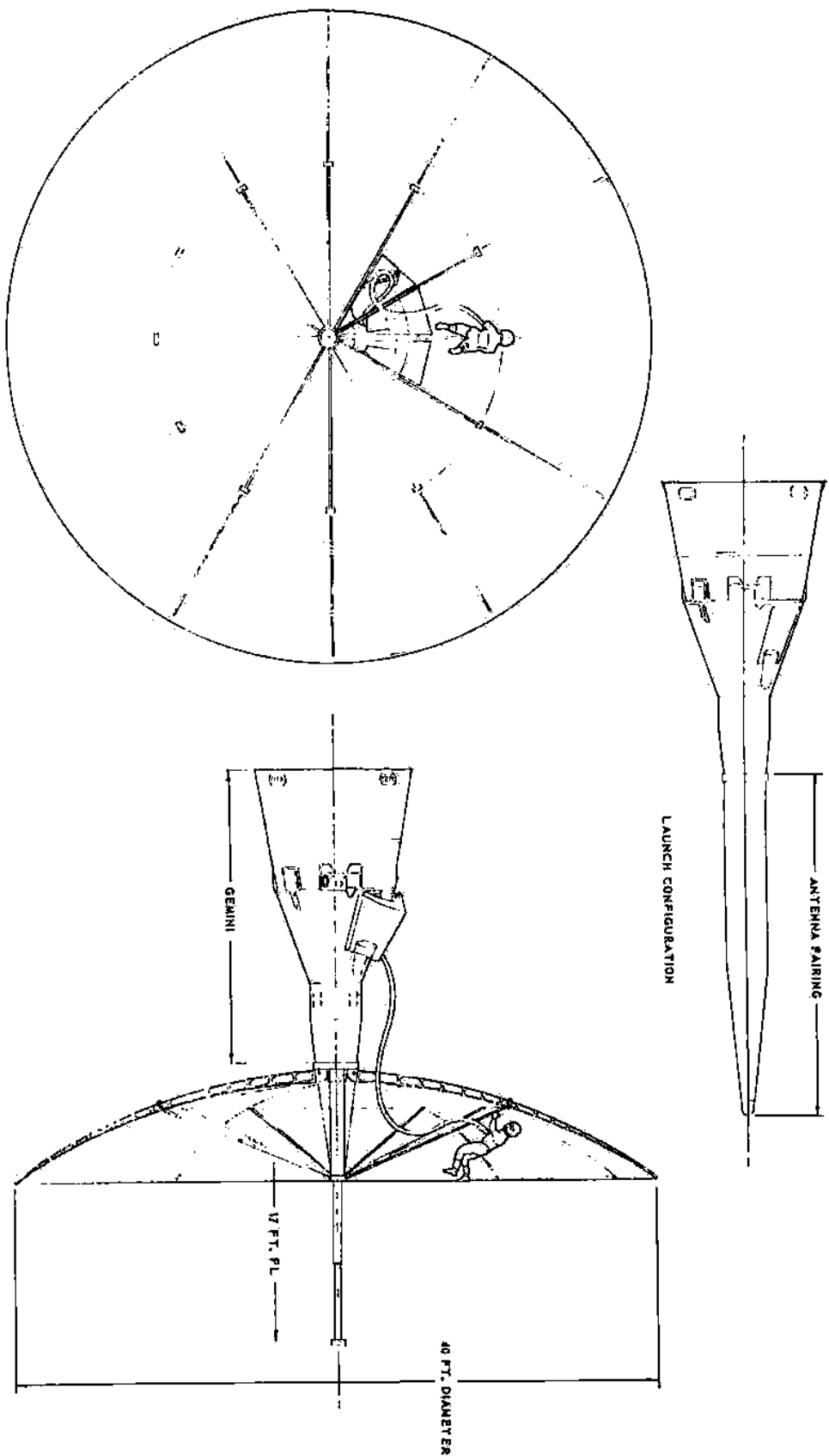


FIGURE 3.6-1

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ANTENNA ERECTION AND ASSEMBLY IN ORBIT

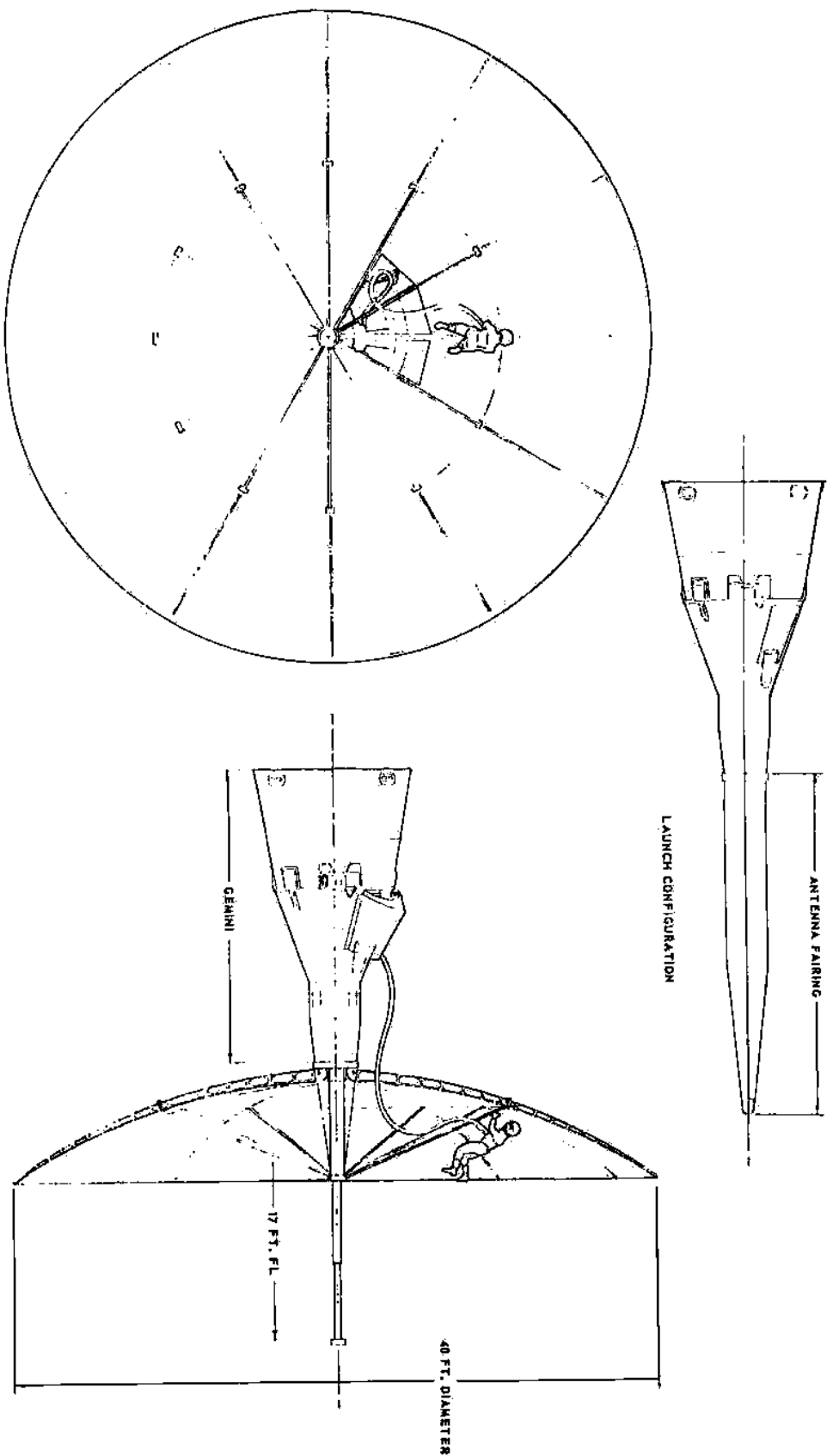


FIGURE 3.6-1

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3.6.1 (Continued)

C. Assembly of Large, Low Density Structures

1. Antennas, solar arrays and radiators - Very little actuator power is required to mechanize erection because of weightlessness. However, man is required as backup to this operation as well as to provide final lock-up, alignment, and inspection.
2. Pressurized Transfer Tunnels - Man can more effectively perform sealing operations and also perform seal inspection and seal maintenance.

D. Return of Gemini Thrust Chamber Assembly - Rocketdyne has accomplished a breakthrough on thruster life capability for the Gemini spacecraft. Although the Gemini TCA's have an appreciable margin of safety for the Gemini missions, the precise margin has not been determined due to the fact that endurance testing of rocket motors at orbit pressure altitude has not been accomplished to date on ablative-type motors. Information of this type is of particular interest because of the speculation of shorter life capability in space than that estimated from tests conducted at altitudes intended to be representative of orbital altitudes, but which do not duplicate actual operating conditions. It is especially important to obtain endurance results from a pulsing mode of operation.

3.6.2 Erectable Antenna Weight Estimates - The preliminary weight estimate is given in Table 3.6-1.

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TABLE 3.6-1
STRUCTURAL ASSEMBLY IN ORBIT

	WEIGHT - LB.
WEIGHT REMOVED	(-817)
SPACECRAFT 12 EXPERIMENTS	-279
RADAR	-87
DOCKING SYSTEM	-18
OAMS TANKS	-44
OAMS PROPELLANT	-288
WEIGHT ADDED	(818)
ANTENNA	685
STRUCTURE	103
ECS LINES	30
NET WEIGHT INCREASE - LB.	1

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3.7 Propellant Transfer

3.7.1 Orbiting Vehicle Configuration - The orbiting vehicles utilized to accomplish this task are a rendezvous configuration Gemini and Gemini Agena Target (G.A.T.). The basic configuration of the Gemini is altered to incorporate two propellant tanks, one pressurant tank, and transfer plumbing in the adapter equipment section. The G.A.T. is altered to accommodate two propellant tanks and a pressurant tank externally accessible.

3.7.2 System Configuration - The transfer system schematic is shown in Figure 3.7.1. The Gemini equipment includes liquid/vapor separators in the propellant tanks, propellant quantity gauging devices externally mounted, in-line flow meters, pressure transducers, thermocouples, and latching solenoids. The latter are used to control the transfer, purge the system, regulate the receiving tank pressure, and pressure check the system prior to transfer. The G.A.T. equipment is similar, except the propellant tanks contain collectors, the pressurant tank utilizes a heater blanket to provide maximum transfer, and the pressurant switch is regulated. The propellant quantity gauge is used on these tanks for complete transfer monitoring, but flow meters which would be redundant, are felt not to be necessary.

3.7.3 Typical Transfer Procedure - The following is a typical mission sequence for storable propellant transfer:

- A. Gemini rendezvous with Agena (nose dock)
- B. Latch up vehicles (rigid)
- C. Connect propellant and pressurant lines (EVA)
- D. Secure and check connection (EVA)
- E. Pressurize transfer lines and turn off pressurizing source
- F. Pressure-check lines by monitoring transfer line pressure to verify good connection

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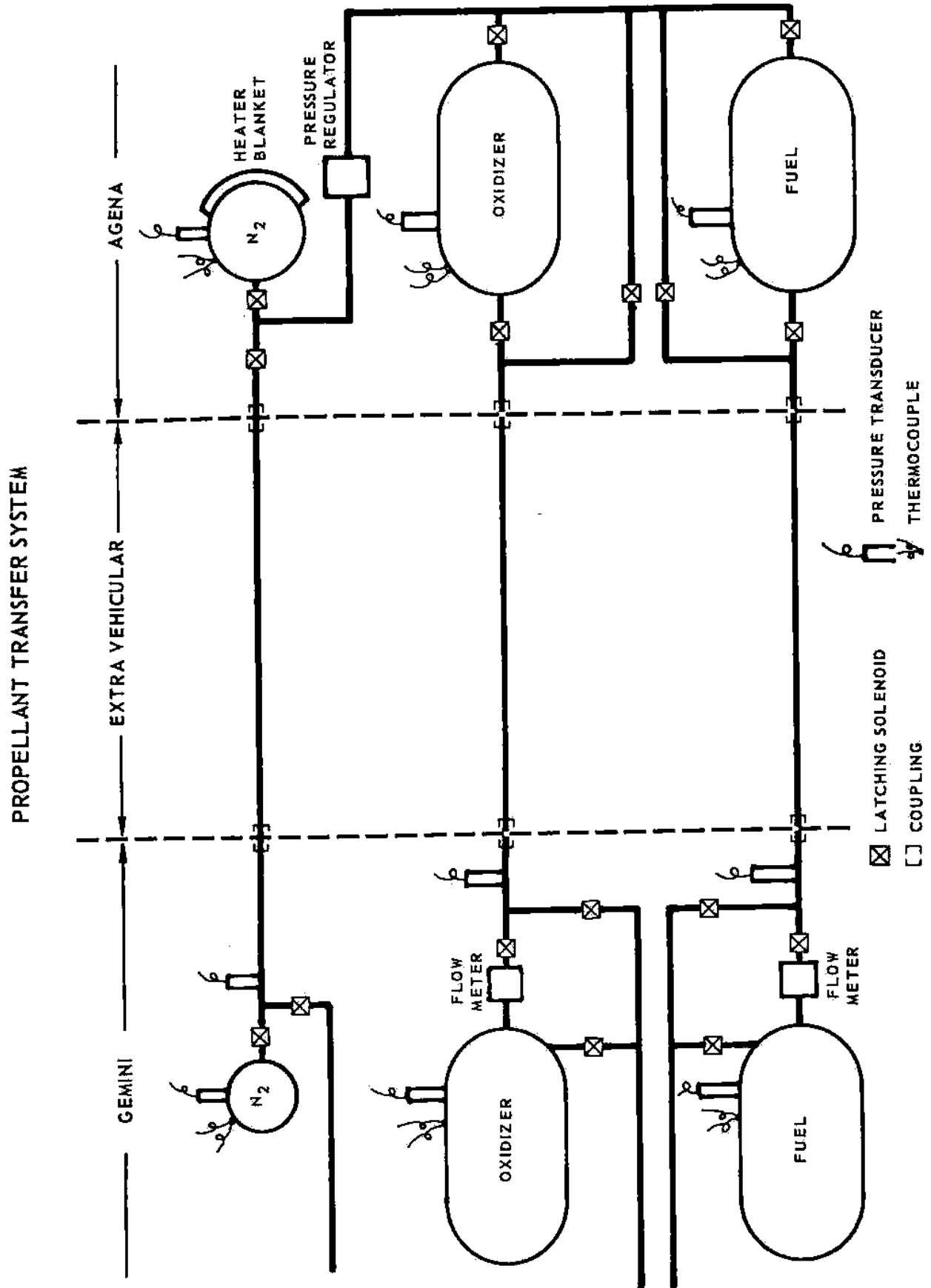


FIGURE 3.7-1

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3.7.3 (Continued)

- G. Release transfer line pressure and close dump valve
- H. Pressurize oxidizer (N_2O_4) receiving tank to 90 PSIA
- I. Check oxidizer tank temperature (not to exceed $150^{\circ}F$)
- J. "Zero" oxidizer transfer integrating flow meter
- K. Commence oxidizer transfer
 - (1) Introduce regulated pressure to oxidizer tank (300 PSIA)
 - (2) Open oxidizer tank isolation valves (2)
 - (3) Monitor integrating flow meter
 - (4) Bleed receiving tank to maintain 70 PSIA
- L. Halt transfer when complete
 - (1) Shutdown regulated pressure to supply tank
 - (2) Shutdown receiving tank bleed valve
 - (3) Shutdown isolation valves
- M. Purge transfer line
 - (1) Open dump valve
 - (2) Open regulated pressurant to transfer line
- N. Halt purge
- O. Close dump valve
- P. Pressurize fuel (MMH) minimum 10 PSIA
- Q. Repeat steps I to N inclusive
- R. Open pressurant receiving tank isolation valve
- S. Open pressurant storage tank isolation valve
- T. Open and control pressurant transfer valve until tank pressures are equal
- U. Turn on tank heater
- V. Close down pressurant isolation valves

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3.7.3 (Continued)

W. Turn off pressurant tank heater

X. Open oxidizer transfer line dump valve

Y. Disconnect transfer lines

3.7.4 Weight Summary - The weight added to Gemini is summarized in

Table 3.7-1.

TABLE 3.7-1
WEIGHT SUMMARY
PROPELLANT TRANSFER

	WEIGHT - LB.
WEIGHT ADDED TO GEMINI (LEM EQUIPMENT)	(80)
FUEL TANK	12
OXIDIZER TANK	12
FUEL DETECTOR	2
OXIDIZER DETECTOR	2
CONTROL UNIT	7
PRESSURIZATION TANK AND GAS	25
MOUNTING AND CIRCUITRY	20

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3.8 Long Duration Mission - The in-orbit configuration of the long duration orbital spacecraft is shown in Figure 3.8-1. The mission section to be added to the Agena is 165 inches long and is mounted between the Forward Auxiliary Rack and Forward Rack. The inflatable tunnel is stored in a fairing attached to the mission section. The fuel cells, reactants, and breathing oxygen are housed in an unpressurized section. Food, water, emergency oxygen, and personal needs are contained in a pressurized section.

The combination access tunnel/living quarters is shown after EV erection, which can be accomplished manually by one man. The tunnel provides easy access to the mission section. It is a structural assembly with a volume of approximately 230 cubic feet. The tunnel selected is based on a Goodyear design which was developed under Air Force contract.

A weight summary of the tunnel and associated end attachments to the Gemini is given in Figure 3.8-2. The weights were taken from a Gemini B study of the same type inflatable tunnel and are directly applicable to this case.

A meteoroid penetration evaluation of the tunnel and Gemini Re-entry Module, for a period of 30 days, is given in Figures 3.8-3 and 3.8-4. The evaluation was based on Aerospace meteoroid penetration environment and penetration criterion (Ref. 3.8-1).

A summary and extrapolation of both Gemini and Apollo fuel cell weights for supplying electrical power for the duration of the mission are given in Figure 3.8-5. The electrical power design point is based on previous estimates including an allowance of 1.6 KW, peak, for experiments and operation of the Agena mounted items which would be carried in either the pressurized or unpressurized sections, as appropriate. Based on analyses conducted during the Gemini B study and Gemini Ferry study (Ref. 3.8-2), the Gemini systems, including the re-entry batteries, should operate properly after the orbital storage period. Power will be supplied

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LONG DURATION MISSION CONFIGURATION
 45 DAYS

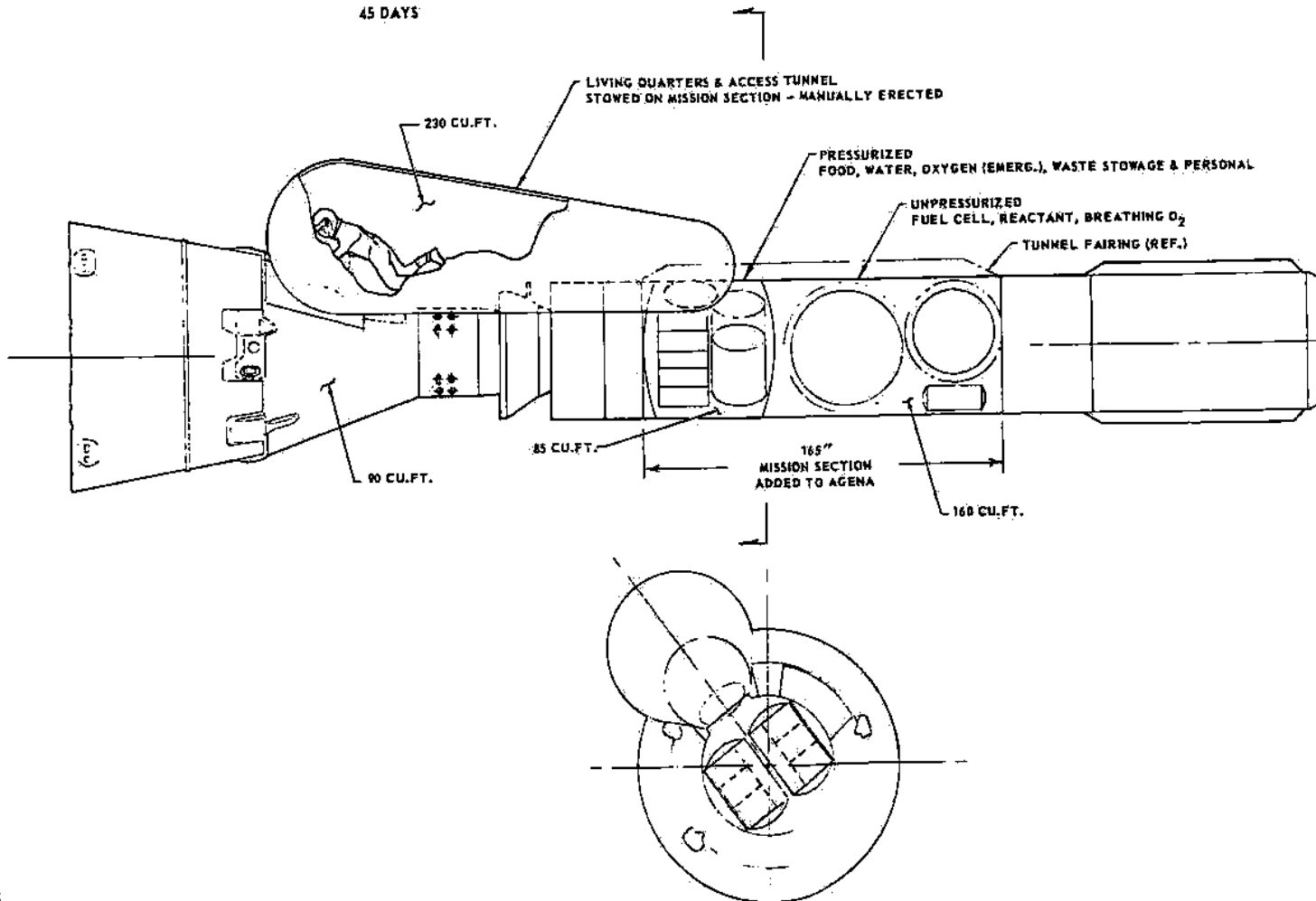


FIGURE 3.8-1

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LONG DURATION MISSION CONFIGURATION
 45 DAYS

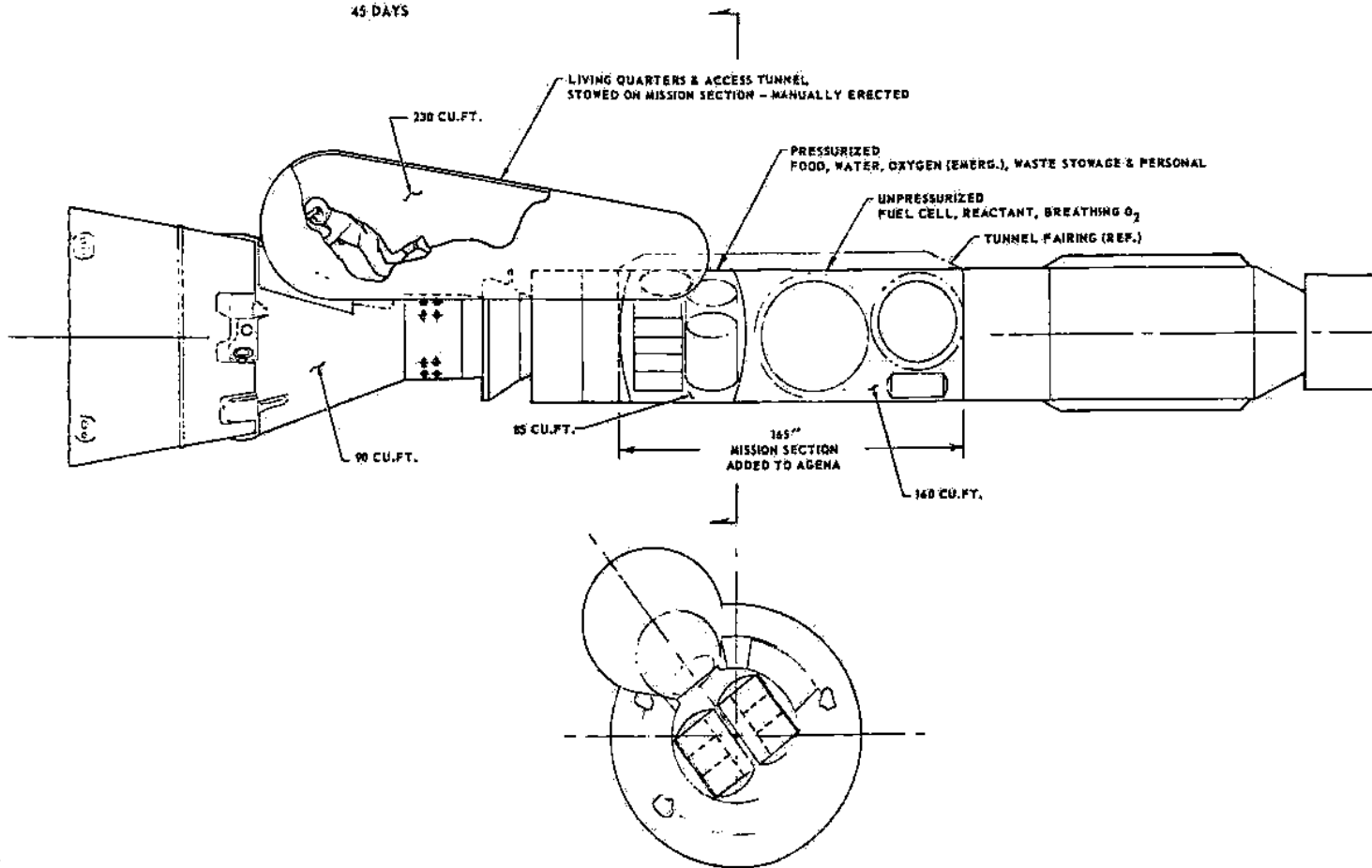


FIGURE 3.8-1

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FIGURATION

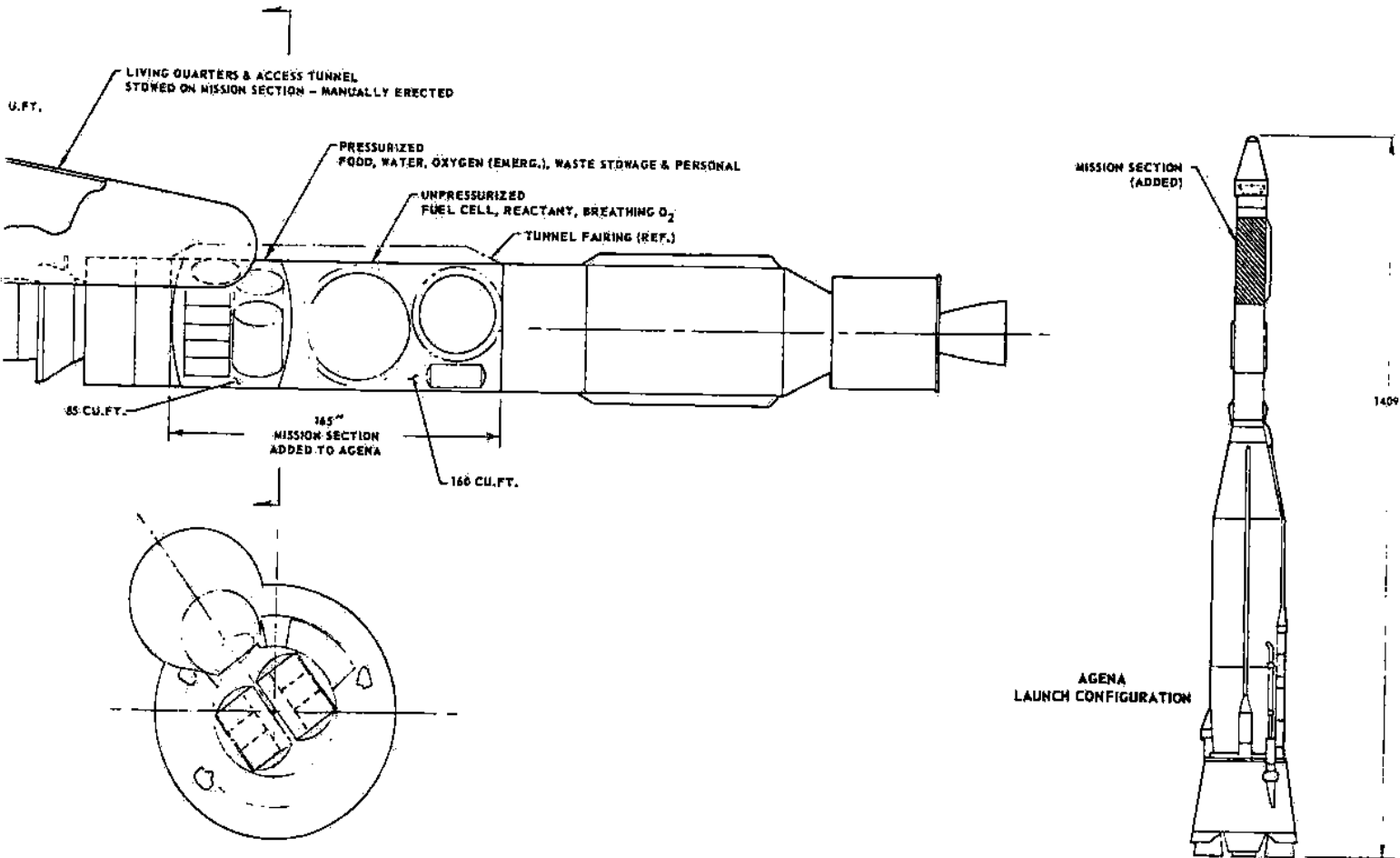
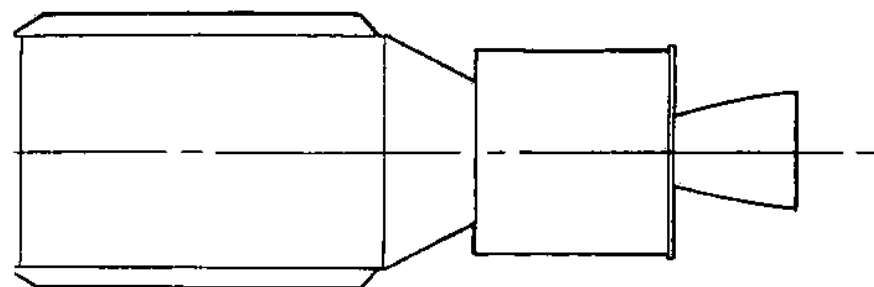


FIGURE 3.8-1

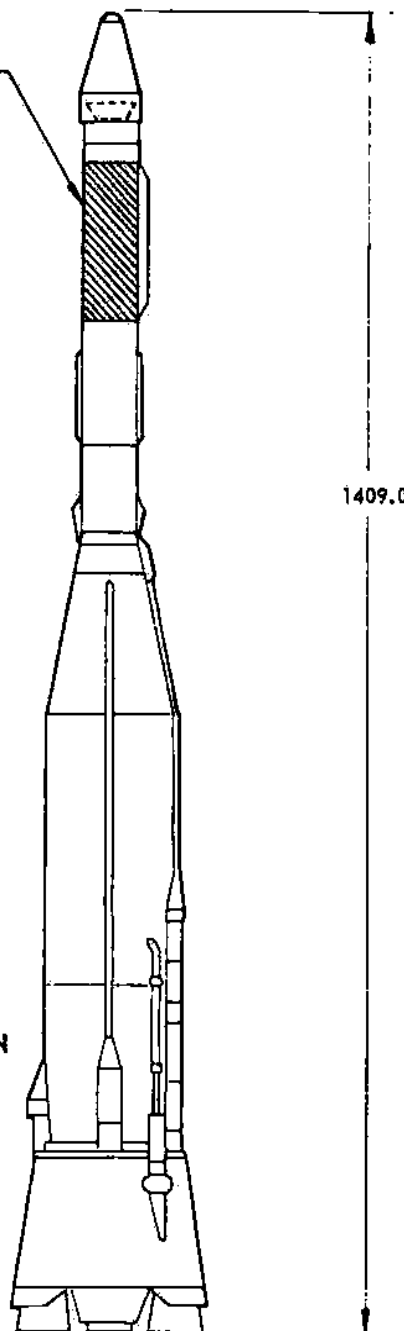
WE STOWAGE & PERSONAL

BREATHING O₂
FAIRING (REF.)



MISSION SECTION
(ADDED)

AGENA
LAUNCH CONFIGURATION



1409.0

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WEIGHT STATEMENT
INFLATABLE TUNNEL

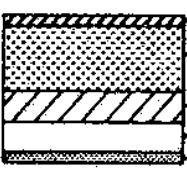
ITEM	DETAILED CALCULATION	WEIGHT (LB.)
TUNNEL/ LIVING QUARTERS	<p>CROSS SECTION</p>  <p> ① .020 IN. DACRON 52 ② 1.25 IN. POLYURETHANE ③ .038 IN. DACRON 52 ④ .060 IN. VINYL FOAM ⑤ .020 IN. DACRON 52 </p> <p> .75 LB./SQ.FT. x 252 SQ. FT. x 1.20% </p>	<p>(226)</p> <p>226</p>
FAIRING	<p>SKIN - .025 TITANIUM</p> <p>.025 RENE LEADING EDGE</p> <p>FRAMES - TITANIUM</p> <p>STRINGERS - TITANIUM</p> <p>PADDING - RF300</p> <p>INSULATION - RF300</p> <p>FLEXIBLE LINEAR SHAPED CHARGE</p> <p>ATTACHMENT - TITANIUM</p>	<p>(185)</p> <p>45</p> <p>2</p> <p>29</p> <p>11</p> <p>3</p> <p>25</p> <p>30</p> <p>40</p>
HATCH-IN HATCH	<p>HATCH-IN-HATCH</p> <p>EDGE RING - TITANIUM AT .51 SQ. IN. + RUBBER SEAL</p> <p>STRUCTURE - SHINGLES, SKIN, STIFFENERS, WINDOW AND FRAME</p> <p>MODIFICATION TO PRESENT HATCH</p> <p>REMOVE WINDOW</p> <p>STRUCTURAL CUT-OUT</p> <p>ADD HATCH SILL TITANIUM AT .45 SQ. IN.</p> <p>HATCH BEEF-UP</p> <p>LATCHING MECHANISM</p> <p>TUNNEL SILL</p>	<p>(34.0)</p> <p>7.8</p> <p>6.5</p> <p>11.5</p> <p>-13.3</p> <p>-4.2</p> <p>5.5</p> <p>12.3</p> <p>2.8</p> <p>5.1</p>
COMMUNI- CATIONS AND LIGHTS		(10.0)
ENVIRON- MENTAL CONTROL SYSTEM	LONG UMBILICAL, 2 - 25 FT. AT 0.3 LB. FT.	(15.0)

FIGURE 3.8-2

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INFLATABLE TUNNEL PENETRATION EVALUATION

30 DAY MISSION

EARTH SHIELDING FACTOR = 0.7

NOTES:

1. $A_p = 75$ SQ. FT. (MAXIMUM)
2. $A_s = 150$ SQ. FT.
3. FOAM DENSITY = 1.2 LB./CU. FT.

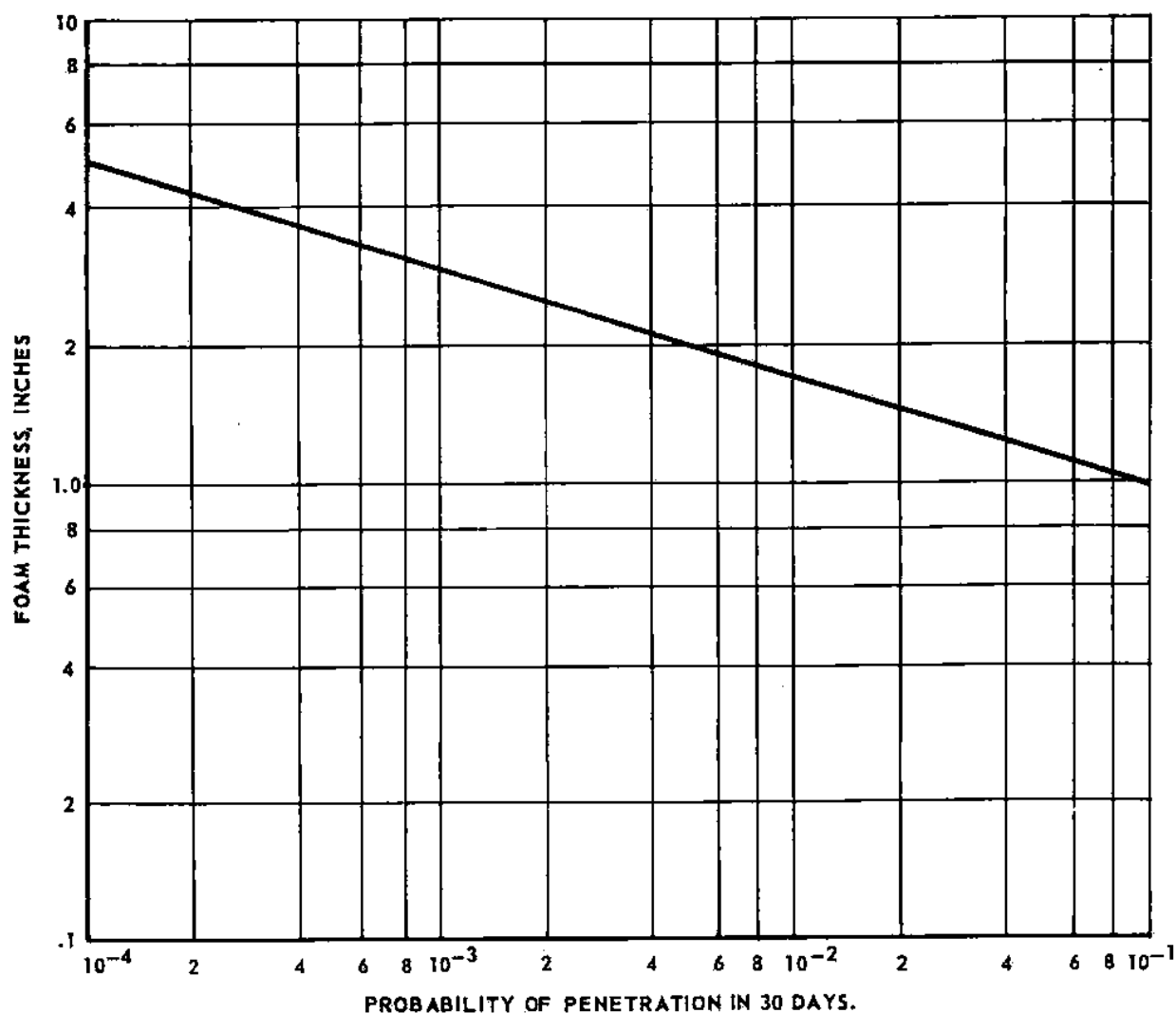


FIGURE 3.8-3

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METEOROID HAZARD EVALUATION

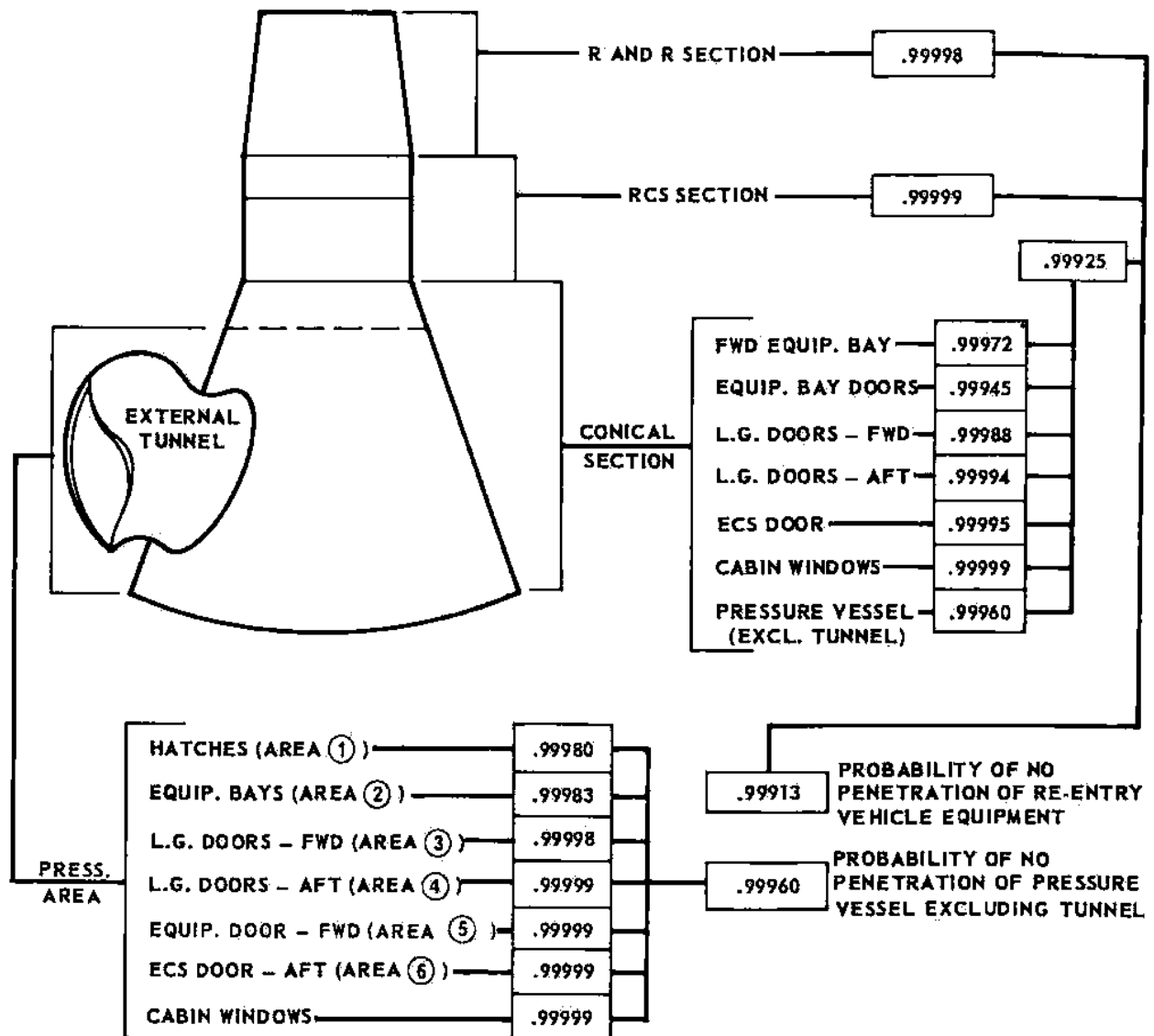


FIGURE 3.8-4

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ELECTRICAL POWER SUMMARY

1. FUEL CELLS APPEAR TO BE THE MOST APPLICABLE POWER SOURCE TO BE USED IN THE CAN, ATTACHED TO THE AGENA, FOR ORBITAL OPERATIONS.
2. POWER TO OPERATE GEMINI ORBITAL STORAGE LOADS (RCS HEATERS, WARMANT LOOP, TELEMETRY) SUPPLIED FROM CAN TO THE GEMINI THROUGH THE DOCKING ADAPTER UMBILICAL CONNECTOR.

ITEMS	GEMINI	APOLLO
FIXED HARDWARE	414 LB.	508 LB.
REACTANTS (1,000 KWH)	1,342 LB.	1,212 LB.
TANKAGE	610 LB.	542 LB.
TOTAL (30 DAYS)	2,366 LB.	2,262 LB.

TOTAL (45 DAYS) 3,342 LB.

ASSUMPTIONS: AVERAGE LOAD - 1,400 WATTS
PEAK LOAD - 2,000 WATTS
INITIAL CAPACITY - 4,000 WATTS
INSTALLED

FIGURE 3.8-5

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3.8 (Continued)

to the appropriate Gemini systems through the Gemini target docking adapter umbilical.

A preliminary weight breakdown of the mission section and associated equipment, to be launched on the Atlas-Agena, is given in Table 3.8-1.

Habitability aspects of a spacecraft have a direct relationship to mission duration and crew performance. One of these aspects is the free space, which is defined as the pressurized cabin space less that occupied by the man himself, instruments, and other equipment (a pressure suited crewman will normally require 5 cubic feet). In contrast to other provisions, such as life support, the requirement for free space cannot be precisely defined. The design goal is to provide a spacecraft volume which is just adequate, particularly when increased volume might add substantially to cost or delay the achievement of operational flight capability.

To put the requirement of free space in better perspective, 37 studies reporting the behavioral aspects of confinement were reviewed (Ref. 3.8-3). These were studies judged to be relevant to spacecraft design and involved the use of experimental chambers, simulated vehicles, and operational vehicles. The results of the analysis, which integrated mission duration, volume per man and performance, and physiological factors are depicted in Figure 3.8-6, taken from Reference 3.8-3. Relating this analysis to the 30-45 day Gemini mission, the following extrapolations are pertinent:

- A. Volumes per man of less than approximately 40 cubic feet can result in severe degradation in performance and physiological functioning.
- B. For missions up to thirty days, volumes per man between 100-200 cubic feet appear to be satisfactory.
- C. For missions longer than thirty days, additional volume allocations beyond 200 cubic feet per man becomes relatively less important as a determinant of habitability.

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TABLE 3.8-1

WEIGHT SUMMARY LAND DURATION MISSION

WEIGHT ADDED TO AGENA	POUNDS
SECTION ADDED TO AGENA	327
STRUCTURE	304
HATCH	23
DOCKING ADAPTER	360
INFLATABLE TUNNEL	276
TUNNEL	226
RINGS AND PORT HOLE	50
FAIRING	185
COMMUNICATIONS AND LIGHTS	10
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL SYSTEM	1,210
FOOD AND CONTAINERS	190
DRINKING WATER	585
TANK AND MOUNTING	104
BREATHING OXYGEN	180
TANK, MOUNTS AND VALVES	76
HOSES	15
EMERGENCY OXYGEN AND TANK	60
ELECTRICAL POWER SYSTEM	3,482
FUEL CELLS AND HARDWARE	414
REACTANTS	2,013
TANKAGE, MOUNTS AND VALVES	1,055
TOTAL WEIGHT ADDED TO AGENA	5,850
WEIGHT ADDED TO GEMINI	
HATCH IN HATCH	34

(1) ATLAS - AGENA B CAPABILITY AT 150 NA.MI. (-3 σ) = 6200 LB. (REF. 3.8-6)

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3.8 (Continued)

The most directly related study was done in the School of Aerospace Medicine (SAM) 2-man Space Cabin Simulator, Reference 3.8-4. Two Air Force pilots were confined for 30 days in a chamber providing 190 cubic feet per man. The mission plan called for operational tasks approximately 50 percent of the time. Some decrement in work capacity occurred during the period. Inter-crew compatibility was satisfactory where incidents that elicited hostility were minimized. The most recent study (Ref. 3.8-5) involved six pilots (attired in pressure suits) who spent 34 days in a space cabin simulator providing 167 cubic feet per man. The crew members were required to perform operational tasks 50 percent of the time. Preliminary results indicate that there were not major problems. It should be noted that an allotment of 167 cubic feet per man in a large crew is probably equivalent to 200 cubic feet per man in a two man station where there is less opportunity to share space.

Based on this analysis of the space requirements, the mission section on the Agena for the long duration mission should provide a free space minimum volume allotment of 150 cubic feet per man. As shown on the concept presented in Figure 3.8-1, the access tunnel/living quarters provides a volume of approximately 230 cubic feet. This should be adequate since one crew man should remain on duty in the Gemini cabin at all times.

The long duration mission discussed offers a number of appealing aspects including:

- A. Utilization of existing Gemini (GLV) Atlas/Agena/TDA equipment to the maximum extent possible.
- B. Development of E.V. operation.
- C. Utilization of an inflatable tunnel developed under Air Force Contract.
- D. Accomplishment of structural assembly in space.

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3.8 (Continued)

Mission stay times are shown in Figure 3.8-7 for three assumptions: (1) water included for pressure suit environment, (2) water included for shirtsleeve environment, and (3) water assumed produced by fuel cells.

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MISSION STAY TIME CAPABILITY

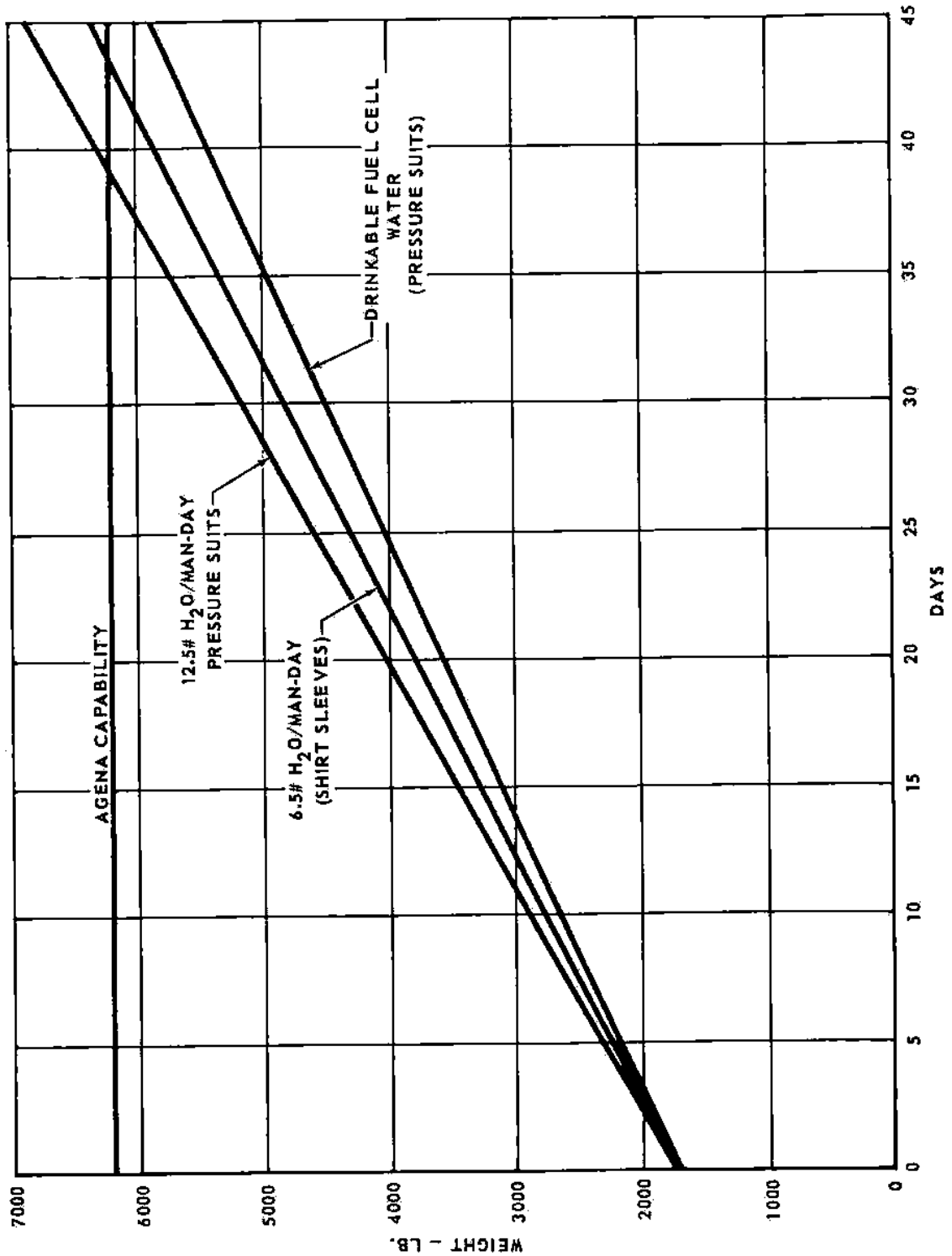


FIGURE 3.8-7

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3.9 Land Landings - Two approaches to land landing are presented in Section 2.9. Four other approaches considered but ruled out because they involve extensive change to Gemini, are also discussed. Further descriptions of all six approaches are presented in the following paragraphs.

3.9.1 Landing Rocket Suspended from Parasail Risers - Design changes required to the parasail version of Gemini to incorporate a landing rocket suspended from the parasail, as shown in Figures 3.9-1 and 3.9-2, are as follows:

- A. Rendezvous radar is omitted, or relocated, and the parasail cannister changed to allow for installation of the landing rocket in the rendezvous and recovery (R&R) section. Some structural changes are also needed in this section.
- B. A device for controlling the deployment of the landing rocket is installed in the R&R section.

Areas requiring thorough analysis before a landing scheme of this type is pursued for Gemini are as follows:

- A. Landing rocket deployment effects on spacecraft stability. Particular attention should be given to study of the directional stability of the spacecraft during and following rocket deployment.
- B. Effects of plume impingement on the spacecraft and supports.
- C. Possibility of burned out rocket motor collision with spacecraft.

3.9.2 Cloverleaf Landing System - Design changes required to incorporate a cloverleaf landing system, as shown in Figure 3.9-3, are as follows:

- A. The recovery section is modified to accommodate the cloverleaf installation. At this time, it is believed the changes required are not extensive.
- B. A control system, different from the Gemini parasail control system, is located in the top centerline torque box.

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PRESENT PARASAIL LANDING CONFIGURATION

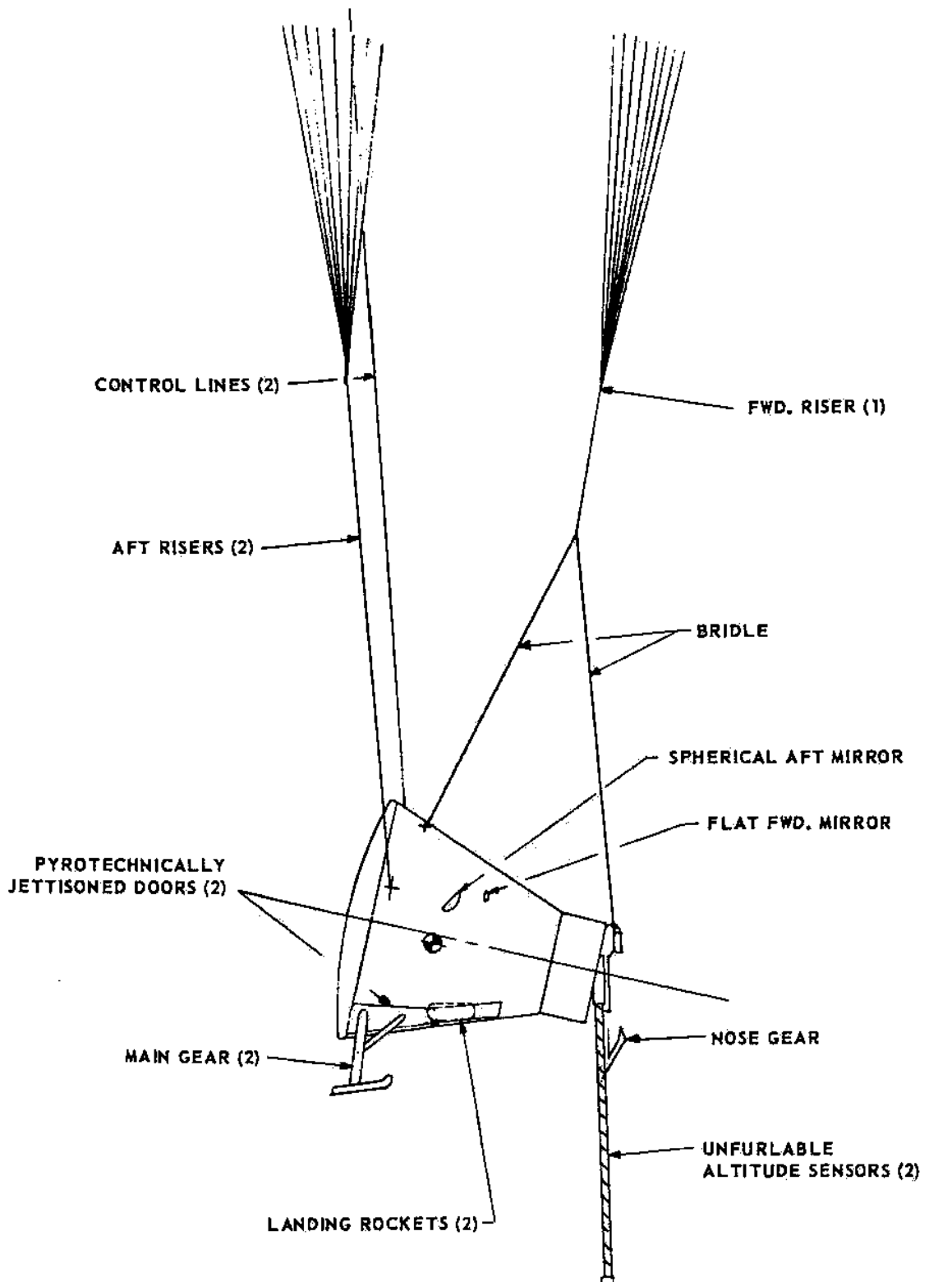


FIGURE 3.9-1

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PARASAIL LANDING CONFIGURATION WITH SUSPENDED LANDING ROCKET

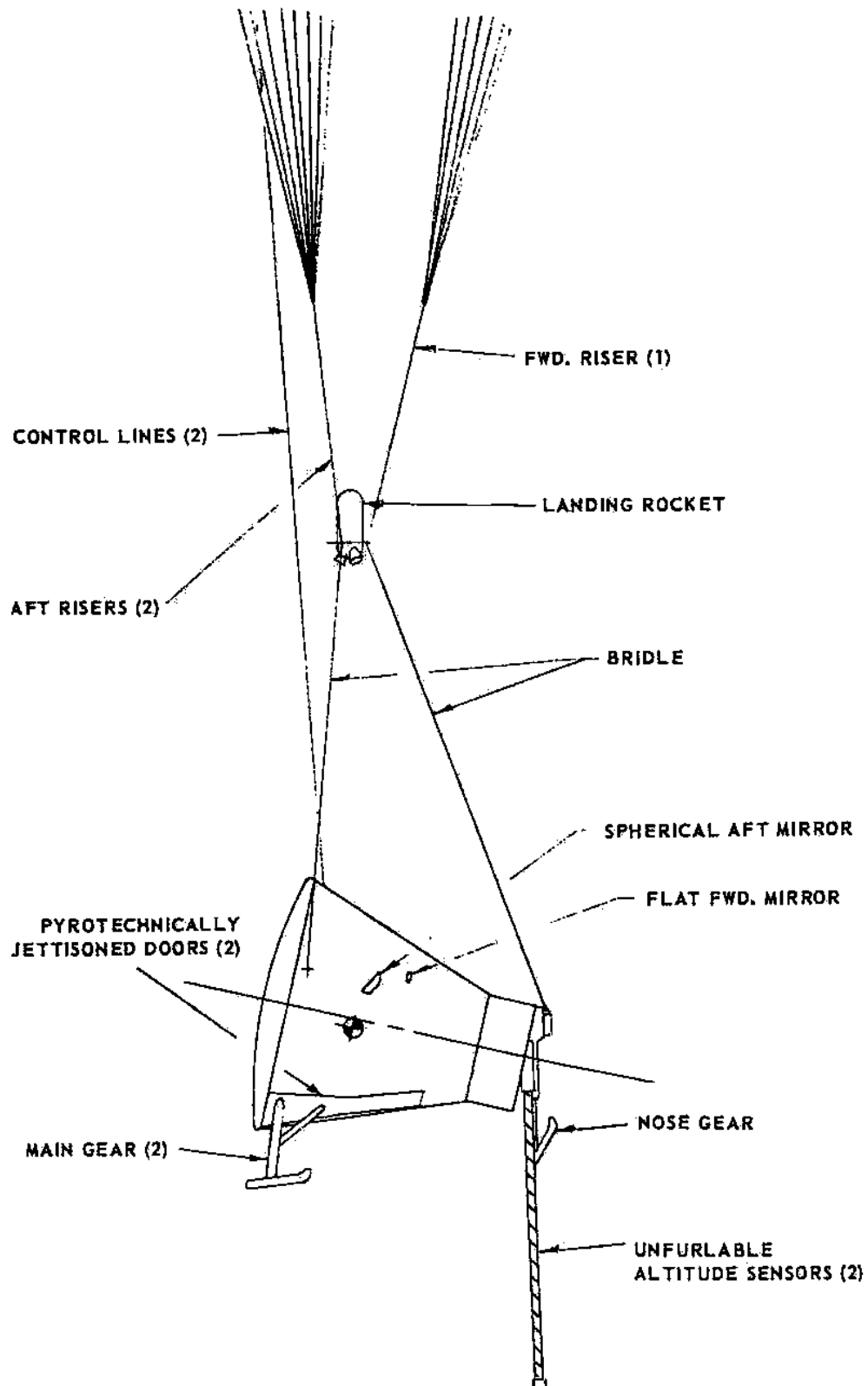


FIGURE 3.9-2

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CLOVERLEAF LANDING CONFIGURATION

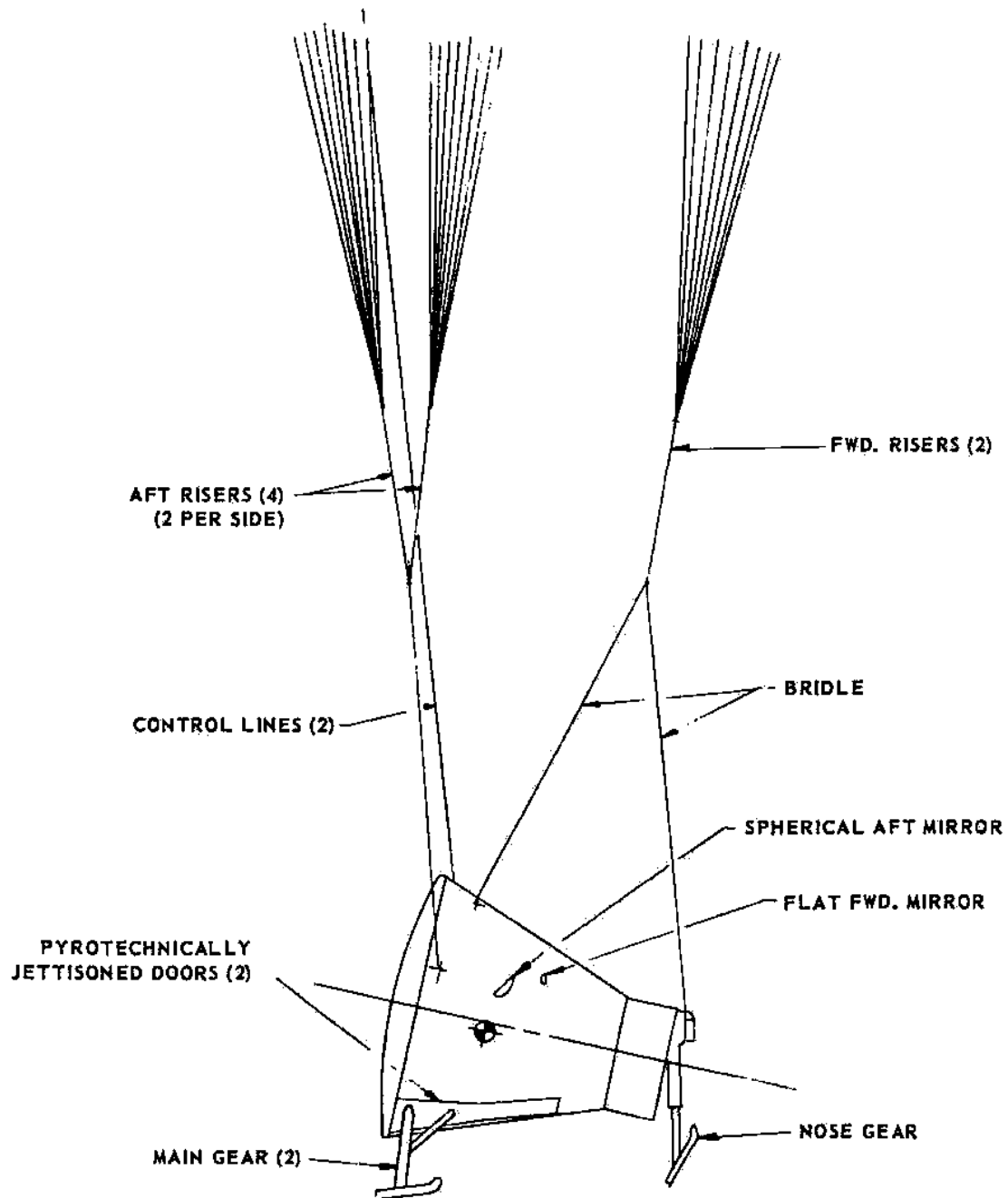


FIGURE 3.9-3

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3.9.2 (Continued)

Development of the cloverleaf is in the initial stages and looks promising, but more data is required in the areas applicable to Gemini.

Areas which should be thoroughly investigated in the development of this type of landing system are as follows:

- A. Reefing requirements necessary to keep cloverleaf deployment loads below the 16,000 pound limit load of Gemini are to be determined.
- B. Control forces required are considerably higher than that of the Gemini parasail and therefore may require a different design approach from that used for the parasail.

The Gemini landing gear design parameters, also used for the cloverleaf analyses, are shown in Table 3.9-1.

TABLE 3.9-1
GEMINI LANDING GEAR DESIGN PARAMETERS

MAXIMUM GROUND WIND VELOCITY - 30 FPS.

LANDING AREA BEARING STRENGTH - 200 PSI MINIMUM.

TOUCHDOWN AREA TO BE CLEAR OF OBSTACLES LARGER THAN TWO INCHES HIGH.

ALLOWABLE IMPACT VELOCITY - 15 FPS FOR NOSE DOWN OF -16 DEGREES, 13 FPS FOR NOSE UP OF 12 DEGREES.

GROUND SLOPE - 5 DEGREES MAXIMUM IN ANY DIRECTION.

LIMIT DEPLOYMENT LOAD - 16,000 LB.

The cloverleaf chute being considered for application to Gemini has a wetted equivalent diameter of approximately 100 feet and horizontal velocity control from 10 to 24 fps. Maximum descent velocity would be approximately 26 fps, with a range at landing of 13-14 fps.

The estimated weights for the various configurations are shown in Table 3.9-2.

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TABLE 3.9-2

WEIGHT SUMMARY
LAND LANDING CONFIGURATIONS

ITEM	GEMINI PARASAIL CONFIG. (LB.)	ALTERNATE PARASAIL CONFIG. (LB.)	CLOVERLEAF (LB.)
REMOVE:	(-618)	(-618)	(-618)
RADAR	-88	-88	-88
OAMS TANKS & PRESSURANT	-44	-44	-44
OAMS PROPELLANT	-288	-288	-288
DOCKING SYSTEM	-19	-19	-19
PARACHUTE SYSTEM	-159	-159	-159
ROLL BAR, FLOTATION AIDS IN RCS SECT.	-20	-20	-20
ADD:	(619)	(644)	(577)
PARASAIL	269	269	-
LANDING ROCKETS	93	93	-
LANDING GEAR	236	236	236
EQUIPMENT RELOCATION	21	21	21
CLOVERLEAF	-	-	300
ROCKET DEPLOYMENT MECHANISM	-	15	-
R & R STRUCTURAL MODIFICATION	-	10	20
BALLAST ADJUSTMENT	(-16)	(-12)	(-60)
TOTAL SPACECRAFT WEIGHT CHANGE	-15	+14	-101

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3.9.3 Impact Bags - Installation of an impact bag between the large pressure bulkhead and heat shield, plus the installation of a toroidal impact bag around the recovery section, was investigated for application to Gemini. The arrangement is shown in Figure 3.9-4.

The descent system used for land landings requires sufficient controllability to permit maneuvering in the landing area. For this reason a parasail was selected as the descent system.

The cylindrical aft impact bag is designed to attenuate the descent velocity and the toroidal impact bag to stop any tumbling which may occur. This system is not adversely affected by variations in impact area sliding coefficients of friction since tumbling is assumed to occur.

Behavior of the spacecraft upon impact and its physical and psychological effects upon the crew may prove this system to be an undesirable landing scheme for manned vehicles.

3.9.4 Cable and Spike Landing Schemes - Alternate approaches for using a cable attached to a spike for horizontal velocity attenuation are shown in Figures 3.9-5 and 3.9-6. The re-entry module is maneuvered into a suitable landing area where the spike attached to the cable is driven pyrotechnically into the ground.

The method shown in Figure 3.9-5 employs an impact bag for vertical velocity attenuation. After the cable has been anchored to the ground, the glide chute is trimmed to behave as a parachute and the spacecraft continues its descent, drifting with the wind. A winch mounted in the spacecraft reels in the cable slack, until the cable is perpendicular to the flight path. The spacecraft then follows an arc defined by the cable. Upon impact with the ground horizontal velocity has been attenuated.

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IMPACT BAG LANDING SYSTEM

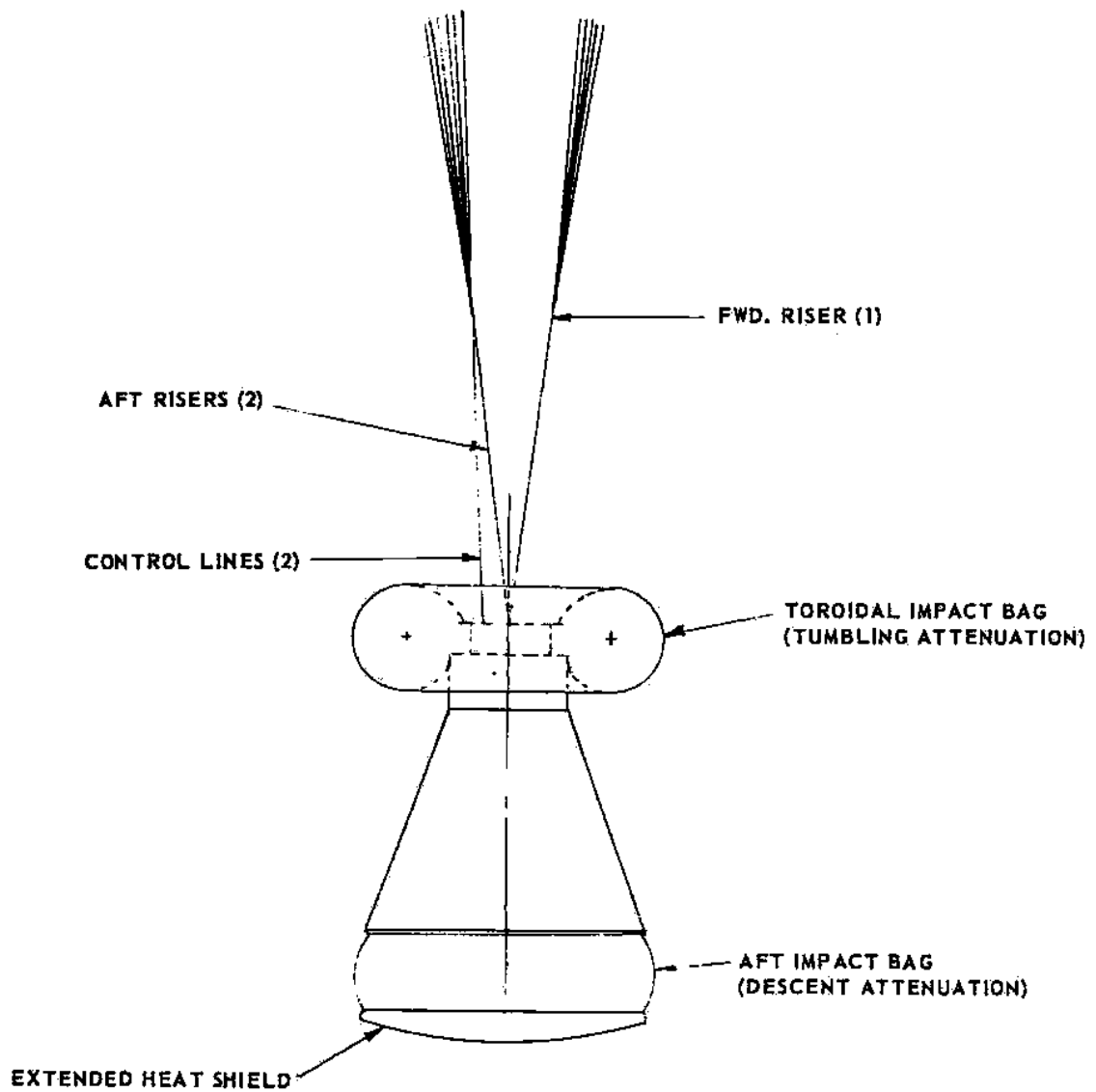


FIGURE 3. 9-4

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CABLE - SPIKE & IMPACT BAG

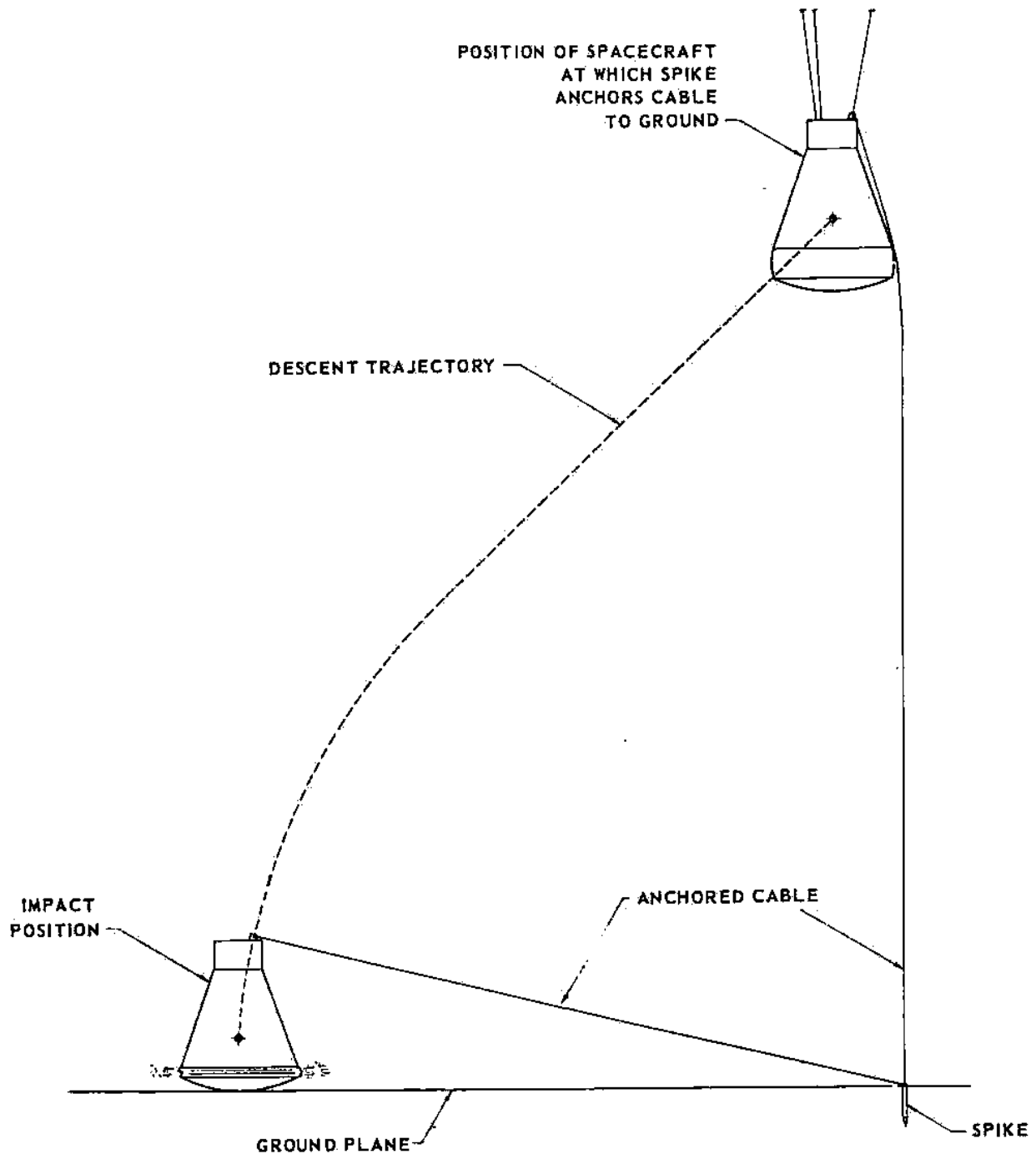


FIGURE 3.9-5

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3.9.4 (Continued)

The method shown in Figure 3.9-6 employs a landing rocket and passive attenuation between the large pressure bulkhead and heat shield for vertical velocity attenuation. After the cable has been anchored to the ground, the cable is maintained taut with a minimum force until the landing rocket attitude sensor initiates landing rocket ignition and engages the cable load brake located on the spacecraft. The amount of cable tension applied by the load brake depends on the length of cable extended, i.e., cable length is dependent upon horizontal velocity. The horizontal velocity is then dissipated in the load brake and the spacecraft impacts without horizontal velocity.

3.9.5 Horizontal and Vertical Landing Rockets - A landing rocket arrangement which uses horizontal firing rockets for horizontal velocity attenuation and a vertical firing rocket for vertical velocity attenuation is illustrated in Figure 3.9-7. The same altitude sensing system used to ignite the vertical rockets is used to ignite the horizontal rockets. The number of horizontal rockets fired depends on the relative ground speed of the re-entry module. The ground speed would be determined either by crew judgement or automatically by radar. The attenuation system could be used in conjunction with a parasail descent system.

3.9.6 Larger Landing Gear - Providing a larger gear with increased strength and stroke is not applicable to Gemini without beefing up the landing gear support structure. The landing gear support structure fittings are integral parts of the Gemini structure. Therefore, modification of the present landing gear to increase its capability to accommodate the higher descent velocities associated with the parasail landing system would require extensive redesign of the re-entry module.

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The diagram shows a spacecraft's descent path from a high altitude to the ground. Key components and labels include:

- LANDING ROCKET**: The rocket engine at the bottom of the spacecraft.
- POSITION OF SPACECRAFT AT WHICH SPIKE ANCHORS CABLE TO GROUND**: The point where the cable is released from the spacecraft.
- ALTITUDE SENSING PROBE**: A probe extending from the spacecraft to measure its height.
- DESCENT TRAJECTORY**: The path of the spacecraft as it falls.
- POSITION AT ROCKET IGNITION**: The point where the landing rocket is activated.
- IMPACT POSITION**: The final point where the spacecraft touches the ground.
- GROUND PLANE**: The surface the spacecraft is landing on.
- SPIKE**: The anchor point on the ground where the cable is attached.
- ANCHOR CABLE**: The cable that connects the spacecraft to the ground spike.

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HORIZONTAL & VERTICAL LANDING ROCKETS

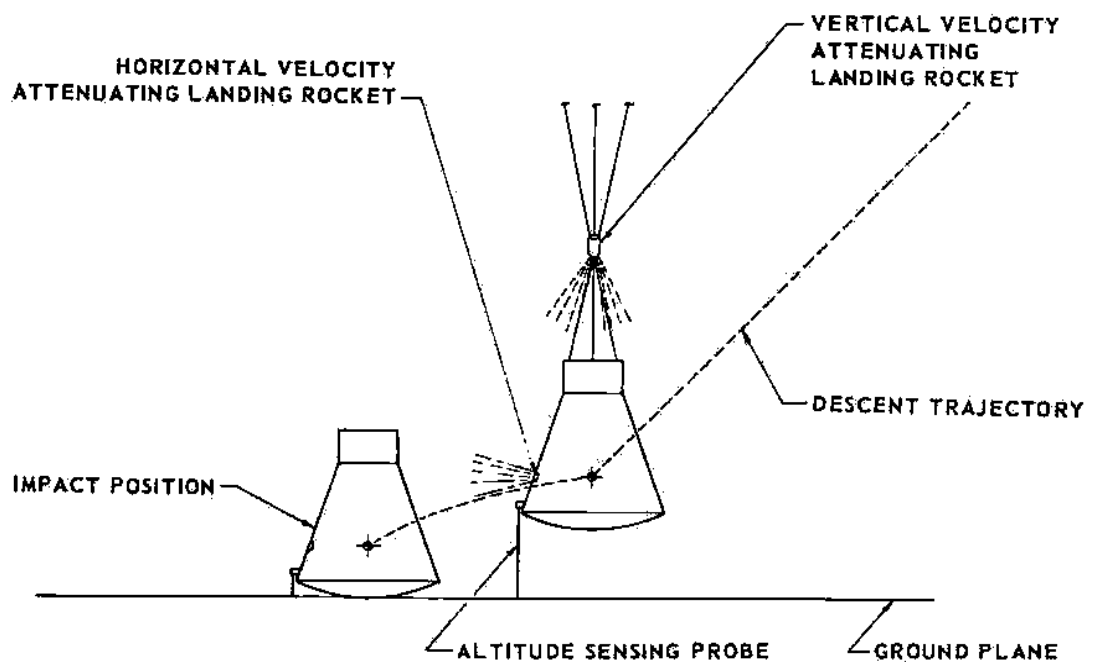


FIGURE 3.9-7

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