ALUMINUM FLAGPOLE MAINTENANCE- Winch Internal System

Just as with any operable equipment, flagpoles must be properly cared for if they are to perform satisfactorily over a period of years. The maintenance of modern flagpoles consists principally of preserving the finish of the pole shaft, replacing the halyards if and when necessary, and properly caring for and perhaps replacing, certain fittings that is subject to wear.

Aluminum poles have a mechanical finish and little or no maintenance will normally be required because rainfall in most areas will remove the dirt buildup and soil that may be deposited on the surface. However, should build-up of dirt and soil occur, *washing the surface with a mild detergent is advised.* If the surface appearance becomes objectionably discolored by contaminants, the finish may be restored by the use of special cleaning agents.

CABLE HALYARD

The cable halyard should be checked with each flag change for signs of wear. The majority of wear occurs just above the white ball on top of the swivel where the cable exits the truck assembly. The cost of replacement can be minimized if it is replaced when wear becomes first apparent, *before* a break occurs. If cable shows signs of wear, cut off the bad cable, feed the cable end back through the swivel, around the thimble, and re-crimp with new compression fitting.

FITTINGS

ı ال With *cable internal halyards*, about the only items that should be checked periodically are the flag snaps, counter weight and retainer ring. If these become damaged or cease to function properly they should be replaced. Truck and winch assemblies are designed to be maintenance free and provide years of service under normal circumstances.

