

Secretary *Joseph*

April 5, 1937

Dear Harrison:

I am sending herewith a revised layout for the jigs required for manufacture of the NA-16, arranged so as to fit into the plans of our aircraft factory. We have carefully measured up the jigs and the floor space required and have set them up on the workshop plan as thought best. You will like to see this as you will want to arrange to lay compressed air and electric power on to each jig. On one of the sketches I have indicated what I consider would be an ideal arrangement for a painting department. This is shown as a mezzanine directly over the main group of jigs for wings. The idea would be to have the paint shop with doors at each end. When wings and fuselages come off the jigs they are hoisted up and slid into the paint shop, avoiding carrying through the shops. When wings and fuselages are painted they are deposited quite close to where they are wanted on the assembly line.

Doubtless you will have little difficulty in arranging the workshop structure so as to carry this paint room, which can be very light and have a four leaf door at each end. I have in mind allowing the steel uprights which carry the jigs extend right up to the bottom of the paint room floor. In fact, some of these uprights could be built in permanently so as to perform the dual function of a support for the paint room and a column to support a jig structure.

After a lot of consideration, I think this mezzanine paint room has a lot to commend it. The exhaust fans can be arranged centrally and can be permanently installed to exhaust through the roof. The idea generally would be to paint tube work and cowls at one end, and wings, tails, etc. at the other, with a rail and carrier to hoist up from the ground floor. If required it would be easy to enlarge this mezzanine paint room without upsetting the rest of the layout.

Yours sincerely,

*L. J. Washett*

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