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R-2600-22 ENGINE IN A

PBM-3D NACELLE

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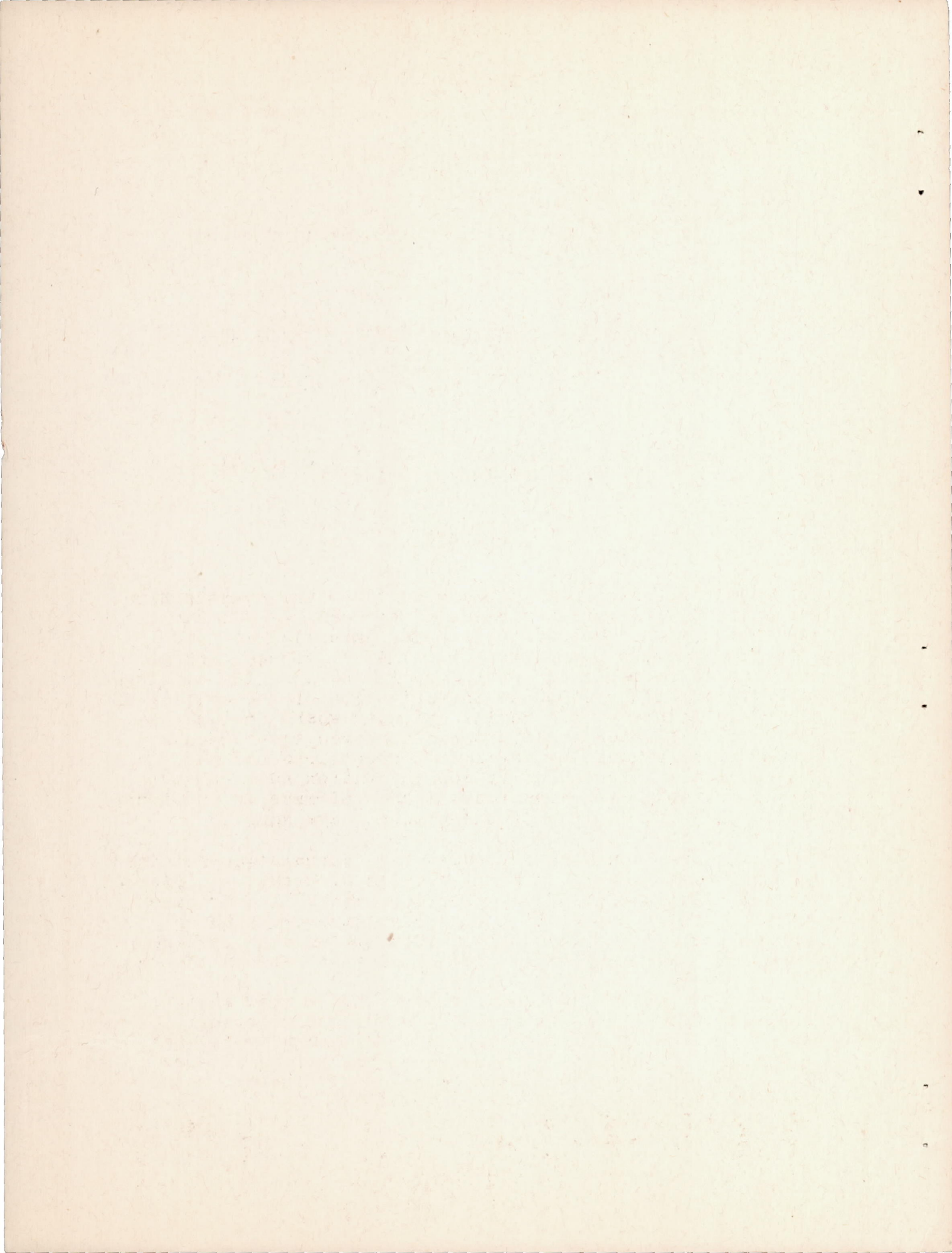
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MEMORANDUM REPORT

for the

Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department

RESTRICTED

MR No. L5L18

GROUND-STAND COOLING INVESTIGATION OF AN

R-2600-22 ENGINE IN A

PBM-3D NACELLE

By Robert C. Spencer, F. William Petring,  
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SUMMARY

This report presents the results of an investigation of the cooling characteristics of an R-2600-22 engine installed in a PBM-3D nacelle. The investigation was divided into two parts; an investigation of the general cooling characteristics of the engine by the NACA cooling-correlation method, and an investigation of the cooling of specific points on the engine cylinder where cooling was critical. Particular effort was directed toward measurements of exhaust-valve-crown temperatures and the investigation of methods of cooling the exhaust-valve crown. Fairly extensive tests were also made in an effort to improve the cooling of the number 3 cylinder.

A comparison with a torque-stand correlation obtained with an engine having a similar cylinder head but different barrel fins indicated very good agreement. A comparison of the cooling-correlation equation determined during these tests with a correlation obtained on an R-2600-22 engine in flight indicated fair agreement between the two.

The data from the exhaust-valve tests show that control of the fuel-air ratio is the most important factor influencing the exhaust-valve-crown temperature. Aside from redesign of the valve and cylinder, it does not appear possible to attain cooling by external means comparable to that attainable by controlling the fuel-air ratio. The ground tests indicate that it is



feasible to operate the engine in flight at 975 horsepower at fuel-air ratios as lean as 0.056.

General engine performance, including brake specific fuel consumption is not adversely affected by very lean mixture operation, although the manifold pressure must be increased by about 10 percent to maintain cruising power.

It is recommended that endurance testing be conducted to determine the effects on the engine of operation at mixture ratios in the neighborhood of 0.056 to 0.058. The service life of the engine might be extended, provided this lean mixture operation does not cause unforeseen deleterious effects.

For this engine installation, removal of the baffles from the number 8 cylinder reduced the temperatures at the rear spark-plug gasket, rear midbarrel, and base of the cylinder, without producing measurable reductions in the temperature of the exhaust valve. It is stressed that, although removal of the baffles from one hard-to-cool cylinder may often prove to be a quick fix, removal of the baffles from all cylinders will be definitely detrimental.

#### INTRODUCTION

At the request of the Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department, the NACA has conducted a cooling investigation of the R-2600-22 engine installation of the PBM-3D airplane, both on a ground-test stand at the Langley full-scale tunnel and in flight. The investigation was requested because the engine cooling of the PBM-3 and PBM-3C airplanes was inadequate at high gross weights. In cruising flight the cylinder-head temperature limit was exceeded, and exhaust valve burning and failures were frequent. When production of the PBM-3D was started, the proto-type airplane and an engine quick-change unit were made available to the NACA for flight and ground-cooling tests, since it was believed that many of the difficulties encountered with the PBM-3 and PBM-3C would also be experienced with the PBM-3D.

The original test programs called for a determination, both in flight and on the ground-stand, of the improvement in cooling possible with redesigned cylinder baffles and with propeller-speed cooling fans. In addition, the



ground-test program included some specialized tests, such as measurement of the exhaust-valve-crown temperatures, which required more extensive instrumentation and were difficult to carry out in flight. Because of the results of the baffle revisions and fan installation during the flight tests, some modifications were made in the program for the ground tests. The schedule of baffle tests was greatly reduced, testing of the fan as such was eliminated, greater effort was directed toward an investigation of exhaust-valve cooling, and specific tests were conducted for improving the cooling of number 8 cylinder.

This report presents the general cooling characteristics of the engine by the NACA cooling-correlation method, and the results of the investigation of the effects on the exhaust-valve-crown temperature of several methods of cooling. A brief description of the series of tests for improving the cooling of the number 8 cylinder is also included.

#### APPARATUS AND INSTRUMENTATION

Engine installation.- The R-2600-22 engine is a 14-cylinder two-row radial air-cooled engine, rated at 1900 horsepower at 2000 rpm for take-off and 1600 horsepower at 2400 rpm for maximum continuous power from sea-level to 5300 feet. The propeller gear ratio is 16:7, the impeller diameter is 11 inches, and the impeller gear ratios are 7.06:1 and 10.06:1. The R-2600-22 engine is of the R-2600 BB series and differs in several respects from the engines of the R-2600 B series used in the PBM-3 and PBM-3C airplanes. Aluminum barrel fins are used instead of steel, nichrome-faced exhaust valves instead of stellite-faced, buttress-threaded exhaust-valve seats instead of seats shrunk into the cylinder head, and two oil sumps instead of one. The aluminum barrel fins are fabricated in the form of 180° arcs which are fastened by rolling them into grooves machined on the cylinder barrels.

The standard PBM-3D quick-change engine unit was installed on an outdoor ground-test setup (fig. 1). This unit, which included those parts of the nacelle ahead of the rear of the engine mount, was supported



on a stub wing. Engine controls and instruments were located in a test house about 20 feet from the wing, and engine control was by electric actuators in the wing. Hydraulic pressures and air pressures were read in the control house from direct-actuated instruments.

The engine power was absorbed by a 15-foot 2-inch diameter Curtiss Electric 4-blade propeller. A propeller-speed fan of a Curtiss preliminary design was installed to augment the cooling-air flow.

The engine charge air was measured by a calibrated venturi and was brought to the carburetor through an external duct. The fuel flow was measured by "Stablvis" rotameter, and the engine torque was measured with a standard Wright hydraulic torquemeter supplied with the engine.

The engine was equipped with a Stromberg PR-4BA1 carburetor, with Wright Aeronautical Corporation carburetor setting No. 68973N31. The fuel system was modified somewhat to permit greater flexibility in fuel-air ratio control by installing an auxiliary fuel line from the control house to the fuel transfer pipe of the carburetor and by installing special mixture-control plates in the carburetor. The auxiliary fuel line was connected downstream from the rotameter so that the additional fuel flow was read on the rotameter. Control of the auxiliary flow was by a hand needle valve. The special mixture-control plates permitted fine adjustment of the manual mixture control at stations between "automatic rich" and "automatic lean," and between "automatic lean" and "idle cut-off."

The fuel used throughout the tests was specification AN-F-28, grade 100/130.

Instrumentation.- Total-pressure tubes were installed on all front-row (even numbered) cylinder heads and on the number 1 cylinder head. Static-pressure tubes were installed on all rear-row (odd numbered) cylinders. The locations of the total-pressure and the static-pressure tubes are shown in figure 2.

Prior to installation of pressure tubes over the entire engine, a brief investigation was conducted to determine the fore-and-aft location most suitable for



these tests. It was found that the smoothest and most reproducible readings were obtained by locating the tube ends  $3/16$  inch aft of the baffle curl. That location was chosen for these tests.

Embedded iron-constantan thermocouples were installed in the rear-spark-plug boss of each cylinder. The embedded thermocouple consisted of one iron and one constantan number 28 glass-covered wire silver soldered into a 0.018-inch diameter soft brass pellet, which was driven into a hole drilled into the spark-plug boss (fig. 3). The number 28 wires were silver soldered to heavier leads which were held rigidly to the cylinder by a small brass clip.

A few preliminary tests were made to compare the temperature measured by the embedded thermocouple with that measured by two spark-plug gasket-type thermocouples. Both of the gasket-type thermocouples were attached to the same gasket, one pair of leads being embedded in the body and the other pair in the tab projecting from the gasket. The three test thermocouples were installed on the number 3 cylinder of the engine. Army-Navy standard gasket-type thermocouples were installed at the rear spark plugs of cylinders 2 and 4 to obtain reference temperatures.

Three series of thermocouple tests were run. The first series was run with the normal flow of air over the engine, and the second and third series with 167- and 139-mile-per-hour blasts of air from a  $3/4$ -inch tube directed on the thermocouples. Each series of tests was run at several different power conditions selected to give a range of cylinder-head temperatures. The test results (fig. 4) show that the thermocouple embedded in the spark-plug boss was affected least by stray blasts of air, while the thermocouple in the tab projecting from the gasket was affected most. In view of this fact, the embedded type was chosen for the correlation work.

Each cylinder was also equipped with a conventional gasket-type thermocouple at the rear spark plug and thermocouples were installed at the cylinder flanges. During the exhaust-valve work, thermocouples were installed in the exhaust-valve crown of the number 2 cylinder, in the exhaust-valve guide, and in the metal immediately adjacent to the exhaust-valve seat.



The exhaust-valve thermocouple installation is similar to that described by Sanders and others in reference 1, with the exception that provision was made for installing all contacts underneath the rocker-box cover. The general arrangement of the installation is shown schematically in figures 5 and 6. The thermocouple is formed by the junction of the single constantan wire and the stainless steel tube shown in figure 5. The single-wire thermocouple permits a more rugged construction than does the two-wire thermocouple; however, due to the fact that the temperatures encountered are near the upper limit for an iron-constantan thermocouple, the calibration is somewhat uncertain and apparently changes slightly with use. The thermocouple is considered satisfactory for comparative tests, although the absolute values may be in error by as much as  $50^{\circ}$  or  $60^{\circ}$  F. The thermocouple emf is transferred to the external leads through the contacts on the long steel springs (fig. 6). These contacts are arranged to touch the contacts on the valve during only about  $1/32$  inch of valve travel. Movement of the springs is thereby held to a minimum. Inasmuch as the valve remains closed approximately three-fourths of the time, no difficulty has been experienced in obtaining good null balance readings on a potentiometer with a reasonably sensitive galvanometer.

This thermocouple is characterized by both compactness and ruggedness. The complete installation can be made beneath the rocker-box cover, and the present installation has been operated a total of more than 65 hours. The only maintenance required has been replacement of the contacts on one occasion, and minor adjustments of the tension of the contact springs.

#### NOTATION

rpm	engine crankshaft speed, revolutions per minute
ihp	indicated horsepower
bhp	brake horsepower
$P_m$	engine manifold pressure measured at the blower rim, inches of mercury absolute



$P_a$	outside air pressure, inches of mercury absolute
$\rho$	mass density of cooling air, slugs per cubic foot
$\sigma$	relative density of cooling air ( $\rho/0.002378$ )
$\Delta p$	cooling-air pressure drop across engine, inches of water
$W_a$	engine cooling air, pounds per hour
$W_e$	engine charge air, pounds per hour
$x, y, z,$	exponents applying to $W_a$ , $W_e$ , and $\sigma \Delta p$ , respectively
$C_1$ and $C_2$	constants
$t_h$	average temperature of all cylinders, measured by thermocouples embedded in the spark-plug boss, $^{\circ}\text{F}$
$t_a$	cooling-air temperature, $^{\circ}\text{F}$
$t_c$	carburetor-air temperature, $^{\circ}\text{F}$
$t_g$	mean effective gas temperature, $^{\circ}\text{F}$
$t_{g_o}$	reference mean effective gas temperature at carburetor-air temperature of $0^{\circ}\text{F}$ , $^{\circ}\text{F}$
$\Delta t_g$	increment of effective gas temperature
$g$	acceleration of gravity, feet per second <sup>2</sup>
$C_p$	specific heat of air at constant pressure, Btu per pound $^{\circ}\text{F}$

## COOLING CORRELATION

## Establishment of the Cooling Correlation

The fundamental principles of the NACA engine-cooling correlation method have been expressed in references 2, 3, and 4, and detailed descriptions of the application of the method are given in reference 5. The fundamental equation for the cooling of an air-cooled engine is expressed as follows:

$$\frac{t_h - t_a}{t_g - t_h} = C_1 \frac{W_e^y}{W_a^x} \quad (1)$$

or

$$\frac{t_h - t_a}{t_g - t_h} = C_2 \frac{W_e^y}{(\sigma \Delta p)^z} \quad (2)$$

Equation (2) is approximate, and is generally used in applying the correlation method at low and medium altitudes. At high altitude the more exact equation (1) is used.

Throughout this report the reference mean effective gas temperature  $t_{g0}$  is used instead of  $t_{g80}$ , in conform-

ance with current practice. The mean effective gas temperature  $t_g$  is determined from the equation:

$$t_g = t_{g0} + 0.3 (t_c + \Delta t),$$

where the blower rise  $\Delta t$  is determined from the equation:

$$\Delta t = \frac{(\text{Impeller tip speed})^2}{778 g C_p} \quad (\text{reference 5})$$

For this engine, the equation reduces to:

$$\Delta t = 19.1 \left( \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \right)^2 \quad (\text{low blower}),$$



and:

$$\Delta t = 38.8 \left( \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \right)^2 \quad (\text{high blower})$$

For low blower, then, the correction  $\Delta t_e$  is determined from the expression

$$\Delta t_e = 0.8 \left[ t_c + 19.1 \left( \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \right)^2 \right] \quad (3)$$

$$t_e = t_{e0} + 0.8 \left[ t_c + 19.1 \left( \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \right)^2 \right] \quad (4)$$

The correlation was run in accordance with standard practice, then random points were taken to verify the correlation. All runs were made with the engine in low blower.

#### Power-Charge-Air Correlation

Generally, the solution of the cooling problems requires a knowledge of the charge-air flow,  $W_e$ . The following method of estimating the charge-air flow (see reference 5) is based upon the assumption that the indicated specific air consumption  $\left( \frac{W_e}{\text{ihp}} \right)$ , pounds of air per indicated horsepower hour) is fixed at any one fuel-air ratio. A curve of specific air consumption against fuel-air ratio is plotted from the data taken during the correlation runs, and the charge-air flow is estimated by use of the following equation:

$$\text{ihp} = \text{bhp} + \left[ 21.8 + 2.13 \left( \frac{W_e}{1000} \right) \right] \left( \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \right)^2 - 1.61 (P_m - P_a) \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \quad (5)$$

which may be put into the following form:

$$W_e = \frac{\text{bhp} + 21.8 \left( \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \right)^2 - 1.61 (P_m - P_a) \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000}}{\frac{1}{W_e/\text{ihp}} - 0.00213 \left( \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \right)^2} \quad (6)$$

where  $W_e/\text{ihp}$  is determined from the plot of specific air consumption against fuel-air ratio.

The equation with the above constants applies only to the R-2600 engine with 11-inch diameter impeller, and with an impeller gear ratio of 7.06:1 (low blower). The corresponding equation for high blower operation is

$$W_e = \frac{bhp + 21.8 \left( \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \right)^2 - 1.61 (P_m - P_a) \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000}}{\frac{1}{W_e / \text{ihp}} - 0.00431 \left( \frac{\text{rpm}}{1000} \right)^2} \quad (7)$$

#### Relation of Engine Temperature Limits to $t_h$

The value of  $t_h$  is determined from the engine-temperature limits as set by the manufacturer, given in terms of hottest rear-spark-plug-gasket temperature. The correlation presented in this report, is based upon the average temperature of all cylinders (as indicated by thermocouples embedded in the spark-plug bosses), therefore the relationship between hottest rear-spark-plug-gasket temperature and average embedded temperature of all cylinders is needed. This relationship is determined from a plot of hottest rear-spark-plug-gasket temperature against average embedded-thermocouple temperature, from data obtained during the correlation runs.

#### Cooling-Correlation Results

A general summary of the correlation data is given in table I, and the individual cylinder temperatures are listed in table II.

The variation of  $t_{g_o}$  with fuel-air ratio is shown in figure 7. It is seen that the points all fall fairly near the curve, regardless of whether the engine was operated at constant charge-air flow, constant power, or constant manifold pressure.

The value of the exponent  $z$  (equation (2)), as determined by the construction curve, is 0.36. The exponent  $y$  is 0.59, and  $C_2$  is 0.00420. The complete cooling-correlation equation for this engine is then

$$\frac{t_h - t_a}{t_g - t_h} = 0.00420 \frac{W_e^{0.59}}{(\sigma \Delta p)^{0.36}} \quad (8)$$



The cooling correlation for the engine, with

$$\frac{t_h - t_a}{t_g - t_h} = \frac{1}{W_e^{0.59}}$$

plotted against  $\sigma \Delta p$ , is given in figure 8.

### Application

An example of the use of the correlation curves follows. The conditions are assumed for a standard cruise setting.

#### Conditions:

Navy summer atmosphere

Pressure altitude, feet . . . . .	5000
Atmospheric pressure, inches of mercury . . . . .	24.9
Atmospheric temperature °F . . . . .	71
$\sigma$ . . . . .	0.8120
Engine speed, rpm . . . . .	1975
Engine manifold pressure, inches of mercury . . . . .	31.5
Brake horsepower . . . . .	975
Fuel-air ratio . . . . .	0.065
Assume carburetor air temperature, °F . . . . .	75

The normal cruising speed of the PBM airplane is somewhere in the neighborhood of 140 miles per hour at the power condition assumed. Corrections for compressibility effects have been applied and the following corrected values are used:

$t_a$ , °F . . . . .	75
$\sigma$ . . . . .	0.82



First,  $W_e$ ,  $t_g$ , and  $t_h$  must be determined. From figure 9,  $\frac{W_e}{ihp}$  at 0.065 fuel-air ratio is 5.95 pounds of air per indicated horsepower-hour, and from equation 6,  $W_e = 6500$  pounds per hour.

From figure 7,  $t_{g0}$  at 0.065 fuel-air ratio is  $1170^\circ$  F. Then (equation (4))

$$t_g = t_{g0} + 0.3 [75 + 19.1 (1.975)^2] = 1170 + 120 = 1290^\circ \text{ F}$$

The manufacturer lists  $401^\circ$  F as the temperature limit for the hottest head (rear-spark-plug-gasket thermocouple) for continuous operation, and figure 10 shows that  $t_h$  (embedded thermocouple) at a hottest rear-spark-plug-gasket temperature of  $401^\circ$  F is  $410^\circ$  F.

Then,

$$\frac{t_h - t_a}{t_g - t_h} \frac{1}{W_e^{0.59}} = \frac{410 - 75}{1290 - 410} \frac{1}{6500^{0.59}} = 0.00214$$

and from figure 8,  $\sigma_{\Delta p} = 6.9$

### Supplementary Considerations

The curve of indicated specific fuel consumption (fig. 11) is an index of the general engine performance. The consistency of the fuel and air measurements is illustrated by the fact that the data of both figures 9 and 11 fall reasonably near the curves.

### Comparison with Other Correlations

A cooling correlation for the C14B engine is presented by the Wright Aeronautical Corporation in reference 6. The cylinder head of the C14B engine is similar to that of the C14BB (2600-22) engine, and the cooling correlation for the cylinder heads should therefore be similar. A comparison of the two correlations is shown in figure 12. The Wright Aeronautical Corporation data

are presented with  $\frac{t_h - t_a}{t_g - t_h}$  plotted against  $\frac{W_e^{1.66}}{\sigma_{\Delta p}}$ , and



for comparison the NACA data are plotted on the same basis. The exponent, 1.66, used in the W.A.C. correlation, is obtained by dividing the exponent  $y$  by the exponent  $z$ , from equation (2). The corresponding exponent from the NACA data is 1.64. The agreement between the two sets of data is very close and indicates the probability of good instrumentation.

The usefulness of any cooling-correlation data is largely dependent upon whether or not the cooling requirements of the engine, as predicted from the curves, agree with actual flight-test data. There have been frequent discrepancies between some wind-tunnel and flight cooling correlations of engines other than the R-2600. For this reason it may be of particular interest to compare the cooling correlation obtained during the flight tests with the cooling-correlation data of this report. The flight tests were carried out at an altitude of 5000 feet, so the question of corrections for high altitude does not enter into the comparison. The flight tests selected for comparison were made with a Curtiss fan installed on the engine.

In figures 13 and 14 are shown comparisons of the cooling-air pressure drops and rear-spark-plug gasket temperatures for somewhat similar conditions, for the flight tests and ground-stand tests.

Figure 15 is a direct comparison of the cooling-correlation curves obtained during the flight tests and during the ground tests. The indicated horsepower is used instead of the charge-air flow because the results of the flight tests were available in that form. The exponent of the indicated horsepower determined during the flight tests was 0.60. In computing the flight-test points for figure 15, however, the same value as determined from the ground tests, 0.59, was used in order that direct comparison of the correlations can be made without resort to computations. Use of the same value of the exponent for indicated horsepower as is used for  $W_e$  is legitimate.

Both the ground-test and flight-test correlations of figure 15 are based upon the average rear-spark-plug gasket temperatures rather than upon the average of embedded thermocouples. Figure 16, showing hottest rear-spark-plug-gasket temperature plotted against average rear-spark-plug-gasket temperature from the ground-stand test data, is included for convenience in making calculations. A check of similar data from the flight tests shows very good agreement with the ground-test data of figure 16.



It is seen from figure 15 that at the higher values of  $\sigma_{\Delta p}$  the difference between the two correlations amounts to about two inches of water pressure drop. At lower values of  $\sigma_{\Delta p}$  the difference between the correlations is less, and the two lines would intersect in the neighborhood of 3 inches of water pressure drop.

The comparisons of data in figures 12 and 15 indicate that, although good agreement may be reached between different ground-stand correlations of similar engines, disagreement still exists between ground-test and flight-test data. Although the flight and ground-test pressure drops are of the same order of magnitude, the 20-percent difference is enough to account for failure of ground-stand correlations to predict flight performance. It has been suggested that differences in instrumentation are responsible for the disagreement, since good instrumentation for flight testing is more difficult than for ground testing. It appears more probable, however, that other factors, such as large differences in inflow pattern, may be contributory.

#### EXHAUST-VALVE COOLING TESTS

Since one of the chief difficulties encountered with this engine installation in service had been failure of the exhaust valves, a rather extensive investigation was made of the cooling of the exhaust-valve crown and the region in the vicinity of the exhaust valve.

##### Methods

Cylinder number 2 was chosen for the exhaust-valve tests because of its accessibility. Two different general methods of cooling the valve were tried, namely, internal cooling by varying the fuel-air ratio, and external cooling by means of directed air flow. In order to get some idea of how much valve cooling was possible by external cooling, one series of tests was made with a water spray directed over the cylinder. The water spray was considered to be a more drastic method of external cooling than any method which could be used in practice.



Because of the known behavior of the engine temperatures when the fuel-air ratio is varied (shown in fig. 7, and demonstrated in detail in references 7 and 8), it was believed that leaning of the mixture beyond the stoichiometric might afford an easy method of cooling the valve without recourse to redesign of the cylinder or valve. Accordingly, tests were made to determine the valve temperatures throughout a wide range of fuel-air ratios and to see if the engine could be operated satisfactorily at cruise power at the mixtures necessary to cool the valve.

The tests were conducted at a standard cruise power for the engine (1975 rpm, 150 bmep). The torquemeter reading at the normal cruise setting was first established, then the fuel-air ratio was varied from rich to lean. The torque was maintained at the standard cruise value by varying the manifold pressure. A later series of tests was made, using first standard baffles and then a set of ducted baffles on the cylinder with the thermocouple valve installation.

The ducted baffles that were used were similar to the baffles that were adopted during the flight tests with the exception that only the side baffles were used, in conjunction with the standard top baffle.

The water spray nozzle at the front of the cylinder was made of 1/4-inch-diameter copper tubing with fine holes drilled along its length. An effort was made, in the design, to obtain a spray that would direct a larger proportion of the water to the exhaust side.

#### Exhaust-Valve-Cooling Results

Results of the fuel-air ratio tests with standard baffles, and the results of the water-spray tests, are shown in figures 17 and 18. Figure 17 shows the exhaust-valve crown temperature for cylinder 2, and the engine brake specific fuel consumption and manifold pressure, plotted against engine fuel-air ratio. The temperatures of the exhaust-valve seat, exhaust-valve guide, and rear-spark-plug gasket on cylinder 2 are shown in figure 18. The data for the water-spray tests were obtained by turning on the spray immediately after obtaining the data for the points on the curve at the same fuel-air ratio.



It is seen from inspection of figure 17 that the exhaust-valve temperature was lowered about  $85^{\circ}$  F when the engine fuel-air ratio was leaned from 0.065 to 0.0575. There were no adverse effects on fuel consumption. The manifold pressure had to be raised from about 32 inches of mercury to about 35 inches, in order to maintain cruising power.

The other measured temperatures, shown in figure 18, were also lowered when the fuel-air ratio was leaned. Comparison of the temperature data of figures 17 and 18 provides a good example of the relative values of internal and external cooling. The exhaust valve is inside the cylinder and is therefore affected greatly by internal cooling (in this case, by change of fuel-air ratio and consequent change of  $t_c$ ). The rear-spark-plug gasket, the exhaust-valve guide, and even the metal near the exhaust-valve seat, on the other hand, are most easily influenced by external cooling. For example, a fuel-air ratio change from 0.065 to 0.0575 (engine) cooled the number 2 cylinder spark-plug gasket only about  $25^{\circ}$  F and at the same time cooled the exhaust-valve crown  $35^{\circ}$  F. The external cooling by the water spray, on the other hand, lowered the temperatures of the rear-spark-plug gasket, exhaust-valve guide, and the metal near the seat, about  $140^{\circ}$  F and at the same time had about the same effect on the exhaust-valve-crown temperature as the fuel-air ratio change above. The conclusion to be drawn, then, was that (barring design changes in the cylinder head and valve) changing the fuel-air ratio is the most effective practical means for controlling the exhaust-valve temperature.

As might be expected after study of the foregoing results, attempts to cool the valve externally by use of the ducted baffles were not encouraging. Although the directed air flow reduced the temperatures at the rear of the cylinder and in the vicinity of the exhaust valve, no appreciable cooling of the exhaust-valve crown resulted. Consequently, no data from the ducted baffles are presented in this report.

#### Mixture Distribution

The variation of the individual rear-spark-plug-gasket temperatures with engine fuel-air ratio is shown in figure 19, with the test points omitted for the sake of clarity. If the fuel-air distribution



were uniform, all the curves should peak at the same point along the abscissa; the variation in the input fuel-air ratio at which peak temperature occurred is an indication of the fuel-air distribution. The curve of average temperature of all 14 cylinders, drawn as the dashed line in the figure, peaks at about 0.067, and it is probable that the fuel-air ratio of each cylinder was in the neighborhood of 0.067 at the point of maximum temperature for that cylinder. Cylinder 2, with the thermocouple valve installed, showed its temperature peak at an engine fuel-air ratio of about 0.066, indicating that the cylinder was running slightly richer than the average; that is, the actual fuel-air ratio for cylinder 2 was 0.067 at the point of peak temperature, whereas the input fuel-air ratio was 0.066.

#### Operating Considerations

Engine operation at fuel-air ratios as lean as 0.056 was smooth and steady. The engine has been operated at 975 horsepower at fuel-air ratios as lean as 0.053, although there is some unsteadiness at that mixture strength.

Present service carburetor settings for this engine are arranged so that the carburetor will meter between the limits of 0.065 to 0.068 in automatic lean setting. Evidently then, the engines are being operated in a range of fuel-air ratios where maximum exhaust-valve-crown temperatures occur. Assuming, then, that it is desirable for the sake of exhaust-valve cooling to run the engine leaner than present practice permits, the following discussion has been prepared to suggest some changes in operating technique which, although small, are important.

Mixture setting.- The first point to be emphasized is that setting the fuel-air ratio for best operation is an item requiring considerable precision. The procedure should not be condemned upon the basis of manual leaning tests conducted without adequate instrumentation or experience. It is believed that an automatic setting must be provided in the carburetor, so that the "superlean" setting is reached without requiring delicate manipulation of controls. According to the data presented herein, the optimum fuel-air ratio



is somewhere in the neighborhood of 0.056 to 0.058. This value provides a mixture rich enough for steady engine operation, but lean enough for large cooling effects on the exhaust valve.

Changing power.- As shown in figure 17, the manifold pressure must be increased to obtain rated cruise power at the lean mixture setting. Normal procedure, in order to avoid possible detonation while the mixture ratio is being changed through the region of maximum detonating tendency, should be to reduce manifold pressure and rpm to cruise power, set the carburetor to "superlean," then increase manifold pressure until the power loss, due to leaning the mixture, is recovered. The reverse procedure should be followed when changing to the automatic rich setting; that is, first reduce manifold pressure, then set the carburetor in automatic rich, and finally increase manifold pressure and rpm to the desired power.

#### NUMBER 8 CYLINDER COOLING TESTS

During the flight tests, the baffle revisions and fan installation reduced the temperatures of most of the hot cylinders of the engine. Because of the position of the number 8 cylinder (normally one of the hot cylinders already), it was not possible to accomplish any appreciable improvement in the cooling of that cylinder. The oil sump directly behind the cylinder restricts the cooling-air exit to a very considerable extent. The position of the sump also prevents use of the ducted baffles that were developed during the flight tests. Another contributing cause for the tendency for number 8 cylinder to run hot during cruise conditions may be poor mixture distribution at cruising fuel-air ratio. Because of the fact that the baffle improvements reduced the temperatures of the other cylinders the number 8 cylinder was the hot cylinder when the special baffles were installed. Therefore, the program for the ground tests included attempts to improve the cooling of the number 8 cylinder.

A number of devices were tried in attempts to improve the cooling, including the following: turbulence-creating baffles, elimination of cooling-air-exit restriction by redesign of the exhaust stack to enlarge



the space between the stack and the oil sump, installation of a fairing on the upper part of the oil cooler, and removal of the baffles on the cylinder. Use of special ducted baffles was regarded as impracticable because of the cramped space.

Of all the devices that were tried, only the removal of the baffles gave results that were in any way encouraging.

Because of the possibility that some portions of the cylinder might be affected unfavorably by removal of the baffles, thermocouples were installed at the rear midbarrel, exhaust-valve guide, exhaust-valve seat, and exhaust-valve crown, and a series of tests at different powers and fuel-air ratios was carried out. Figure 20 shows typical temperature data from this series of tests. Because of the fact that the test with baffles removed was carried out during the hottest part of the day, the temperatures of the rest of the engine in general were higher than they were with the number 8 baffles in place. The effect of the baffle removal is, however, quite apparent. A striking feature of the data was the reduction of the rear-midbarrel temperature that was produced by the baffle removal. With the baffles in place, the rear midbarrel was running at  $331^{\circ}$  F. This temperature, though not critically high, is certainly in a range approaching the critical point. Removal of the baffles caused a reduction of  $37^{\circ}$  F in the temperature, even without correcting for the effect of the higher cooling-air temperature when the baffles were off.

The other temperatures about the cylinder, such as exhaust-valve crown, exhaust-valve seat, and exhaust-valve guide, showed minor reductions in temperature, but the effects were not considered important. In no case were any of the temperatures increased by removal of the baffles.

It should be pointed out that, although removal of the baffles from the one cylinder proved to be a quick fix, removal of the baffles from all cylinders would be definitely detrimental.



## CONCLUSIONS

1. The cooling characteristics of the engine determined during these tests showed very good agreement with the Wright Aeronautical Corporation correlation of an older model R-2600 engine installed in a torque stand. Cooling requirements in the cruise range as predicted from the ground tests were about 20 percent less than that determined from flight tests.

2. At cruising-power conditions, when the fuel-air ratio of the R-2600-22 engine was changed from 0.065 to between 0.056 and 0.058:

a. The temperature of the number 2 exhaust-valve crown was lowered 85° F. All other engine temperatures that were measured were also reduced.

b. The brake specific fuel consumption was unchanged or slightly reduced, and the general engine performance was not affected.

c. The manifold pressure had to be increased by about 10 percent to maintain cruising power.

d. This conclusion should apply equally well in principle to any other engine that is operated at lean mixtures for long-range cruising, provided that the mixture-distribution characteristics of the engine are good enough for satisfactory operation at the lean mixtures recommended.

3. Endurance testing should be carried out to determine the effects on the physical condition of the engine of operating at cruise power using a fuel-air ratio of 0.056 for an extended period of time.

4. In instances where redesign of the cylinder and valve is not practicable, exhaust-valve cooling troubles can be more readily relieved by means of internal cooling than by external cooling.

5. For this installation, the removal of the baffles from the number 3 cylinder reduced the temperatures at the rear-spark-plug gasket, at the rear midbarrel,



and at the base of the cylinder. None of the measured temperatures were adversely affected.

Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory  
National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics  
Langley Field, Va.



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# NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS

Engine make Wright  
Aero. Corp.  
Model R-2600-22  
Mfg. No. 426724  
Prop. rod ratio 16:7  
Comp. ratio 6.9:1

Blower imp. dia. 11 in.  
Gear ratio, 7.06:1  
10.06:1  
Master rod cylinders  
Nos. 1 and 12  
Spark advance 20°

Prop. make Curtiss  
Type Electric  
No. of blades 4  
Cuffs Removed  
Fan Curtiss No. 1

Carb. model PR48A1  
Make Stromberg  
Serial No. 343544

Fuel Spec. No. ANF-28  
Grade 130

Oil-Grade 1120

Magneto make  
American Bosch  
Serial Nos. R.H.S-1998  
L.H.T-1644  
Model SF14LU-10  
Plugs LS-87

Table I

Master Data

Sheet 1 of 3

Test of  
Wright R-2600-22  
Cooling Correlation

			Plugs LS-01																											
I	Test Identification	Series number	/ / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /														/ / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /													
			301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	418	419	420	421	
2	Engine Operation	Run number																												
3		Date	62344 62344																											



Engine make <u>Wright</u>	Blower imp. dia. <u>11in.</u>	Prop. make <u>Curtiss</u>	Carb. model <u>PR48A</u>
Aero. Corp.	Gear ratio, <u>706:1</u>	Type <u>Electric</u>	Make <u>Stromberg</u>
Model <u>R-2600-22</u>	<u>10.06:1</u>	No. of blades <u>4</u>	Serial No <u>343544</u>
Mfg. No. <u>426724</u>	Master rod cylinders	Cuffs <u>Removed</u>	
Prop. red. ratio <u>16:7</u>	Nos. <u>1 and 12</u>	Fan <u>Curtiss Na1</u>	
Comp. ratio <u>6.9:1</u>	Spark advance <u>20°</u>		

Master Data

Magneto make \_\_\_\_\_  
American Bosch

Model	SF14LU-10
Plugs	LS-87

Test of  
Wright B-2600-22

<p> <math>\frac{1}{\text{Cooling Correlation}}</math> </p>
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Engine make Wright  
Aero. Corp.  
Model R-2600-22  
Mfg. No. 426724  
Prop. red. ratio 16:7  
Comp. ratio 6.9:1

Blower imp. dia. 11 in.  
Gear ratio 7.06 : 1  
10.06 : 1  
Master rod cylinders  
Nos. 1 and 12  
Spark advance 20°

Prop: make Curtiss  
Type Electric  
No. of blades 4  
Cuffs Removed  
Fan Curtiss No.

Carb. model PR48A  
Make Stromberg  
Serial No. 343544

Fuel Spec. No. ANF-28  
Grade 130

Oil-Grade 1120

Magneto make American Bosch  
Serial Nos. RH,S-1998  
LH,T-1644  
Model SF14LU-10  
Plugs LS-87

Master Data

Sheet 3 of 3

Test of  
Wright R-2600-22  
Cooling Correlation

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Engine make <u>Wright</u> Aero-Copco	Blower imp dia. <u>11 in</u> Gear ratio, <u>706:1</u>	Prop. make <u>Curtiss</u> Type <u>Electric</u>	Carb. model <u>PR48A1</u> Make <u>Stromberg</u>
Model <u>R-2600-22</u> Mfg. No. <u>426724</u>	<u>1006:1</u> Master rod cylinders	No. of blades <u>4</u> Cuffs <u>Removed</u>	Serial No. <u>343544</u>
Prop. red. ratio <u>16:7</u> Comp. ratio <u>6.9:1</u>	Nos. <u>1 and 12</u> Spark advance, <u>20°</u>	Fan <u>Curtiss No. 1</u>	

Oil-Grade 1120

Model SF14LU-10  
Plugs LS-87

$$\Delta t_g = .8 \left[ t_c + 18 \left( \frac{\text{RPM}}{1000} \right)^2 \right]$$

Sheet 1 of 3  
Test of  
Wright R-2600-22  
Cooling Correlation

Test Identification		Series number		Run number		Date		Time		Cylinder number		Average	
EW.T.		PM		PM		PM		PM		PM		PM	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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Table II

Cylinder Temperatures

Engine make Wright Aero Corp. Model R-2600-22 Mfg. No. 426724 Prop. red ratio 16:7 Comp. ratio 6.9:1		Blower imp. dia. 11 in. Gear ratio 7.06:1 10.06:1 Master rod cylinders Nos. 1 and 12 Spark advance 20°		Prop. make Curtiss Type Electric No. of blades 4 Cuffs Removed Fan Curtiss No.		Carb. model PR48A1 Make Stromberg Serial No. 343544		Fuel Spec. No. ANF-28 Grade 130 Oil-Grade 1120		Magnetos make American Bosch Serial Nos. RH-5-1998 LH-T-1644 Model SFI4 LH-10 Plugs LS-87		Equation (2) $\Delta t_g = 8[t_c + 18(\frac{rpm}{1000})^2]$		Sheet 3 of 3 Test of Wright R-2600-22 Cooling Correlation	
Test	Identification	Series number		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		Run number		459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470
4	Time	Date		7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44	7-25-44
		E.W.T.		AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
5	Cylinder number	1 °F		407	398	386	378	370	420	414	427	417	414	404	402
		2 °F		370	362	350	349	341	394	388	394	385	379	376	364
6	3 °F	377		382	371	366	358	418	408	415	408	404	394	388	381
		4 °F		368	356	343	337	330	383	379	395	380	372	363	377
7	5 °F	375		365	353	350	341	389	378	397	390	387	375	369	362
		6 °F		352	345	334	330	323	370	355	372	366	365	355	349
8	7 °F	366		353	344	342	334	367	355	383	380	376	367	362	351
		8 °F		374	363	350	345	335	392	378	397	389	389	378	373
9	9 °F	390		378	361	354	345	402	394	409	402	394	382	376	366
		10 °F		365	353	335	327	318	380	367	384	370	373	368	357
10	11 °F	400		388	370	361	328	415	401	420	415	409	397	394	382
		12 °F		384	368	351	341	331	399	383	409	393	394	387	380
11	13 °F	400		391	375	366	355	405	399	419	413	412	402	397	387
		14 °F		377	367	352	344	336	403	394	399	387	384	379	370
12	Average	°F		380	369	358	349	339	395	385	401	392	389	380	376
13	Cylinder number	1 °F		371	356	349	344	335	379	375	386	379	376	367	365
		2 °F		336	323	317	317	310	354	349	356	349	344	339	331
14	3 °F														
		4 °F		347	329	320	316	311	356	351	362	350	346	338	333
15	5 °F	357		334	326	323	317	357	349	365	361	350	345	342	334
		6 °F		319	304	298	296	290	327	316	333	327	326	318	315
16	7 °F	335		320	312	312	305	330	321	349	343	341	331	328	319
		8 °F		355	344	333	330	320	370	358	379	369	370	359	355
17	9 °F	351		335	323	317	309	353	345	361	359	351	340	336	327
		10 °F		333	320	306	299	291	345	333	350	338	341	335	327
18	11 °F	360		350	335	326	317	375	362	380	377	371	361	358	348
		12 °F		346	330	319	311	302	362	347	370	359	356	355	345
19	13 °F	360		347	336	330	323	362	357	377	373	369	362	358	350
		14 °F		344	330	320	315	307	369	360	366	357	352	347	340
20	Average	°F		347	332	322	318	310	357	348	364	357	354	346	341
21	Cylinder number	1 °F		263	256	253	251	247	266	263	267	264	264	259	255
		2 °F		230	225	222	222	221	237	234	237	236	234	231	227
22	3 °F	260		253	250	248	246	266	265	265	268	265	265	260	255
		4 °F		238	231	227	227	243	239	245	242	242	237	235	231
23	5 °F	270		264	260	258	255	277	273	279	277	275	274	268	261
		6 °F		231	224	221	221	219	236	232	236	234	233	228	225
24	7 °F	250		242	252	252	249	270	263	270	267	265	257	257	246
		8 °F													
25	9 °F	255		250	245	242	241	263	258	263	260	256	249	244	237
		10 °F		231	227	223	222	220	241	236	240	237	238	232	227
26	11 °F	262		257	252	251	247	272	267	271	268	267	261	255	250
		12 °F		240	237	233	231	229	246	241	246	246	246	242	235
27	13 °F	244		241	237	235	233	255	250	254	252	251	247	240	235
		14 °F		228	222	220	218	217	236	232	235	233	233	229	225
28	Average	°F		246	240	238	237	234	254	250	254	252	251	246	241

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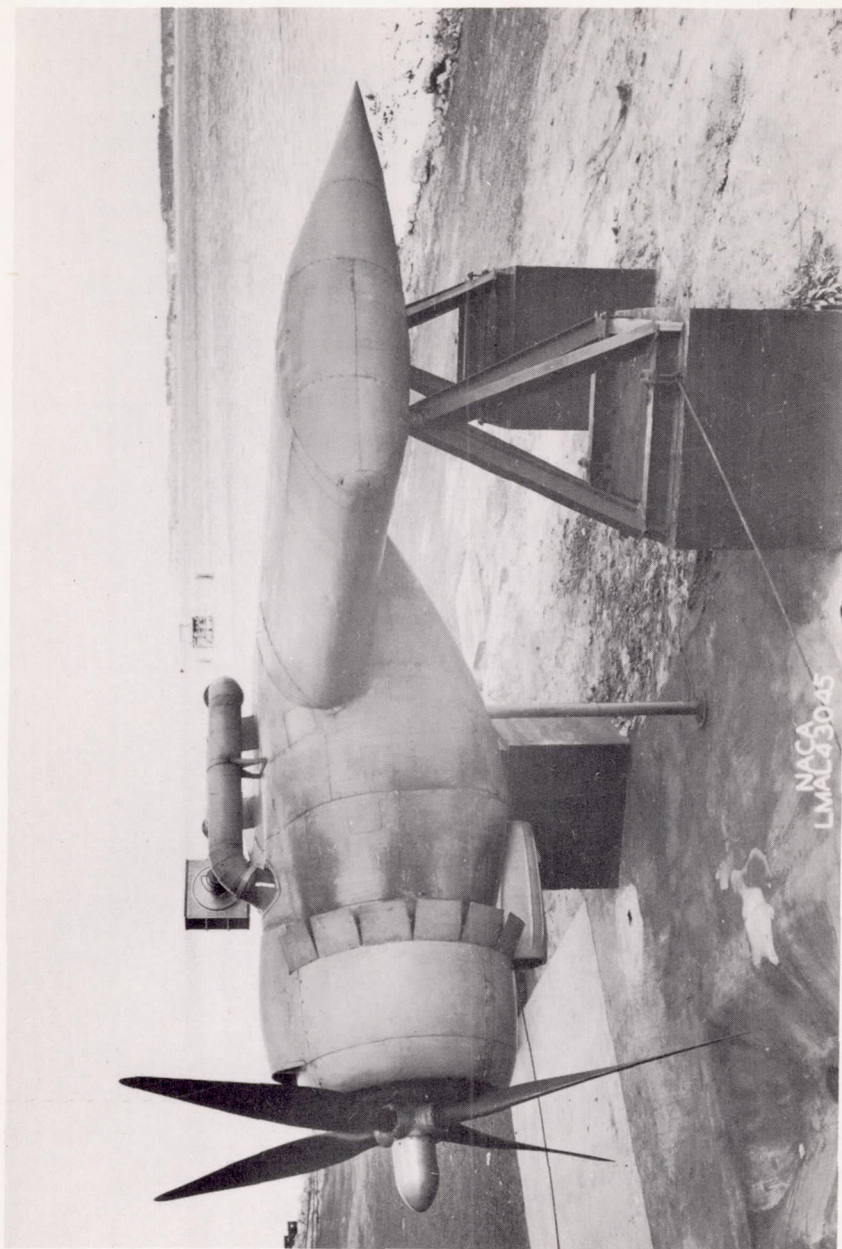
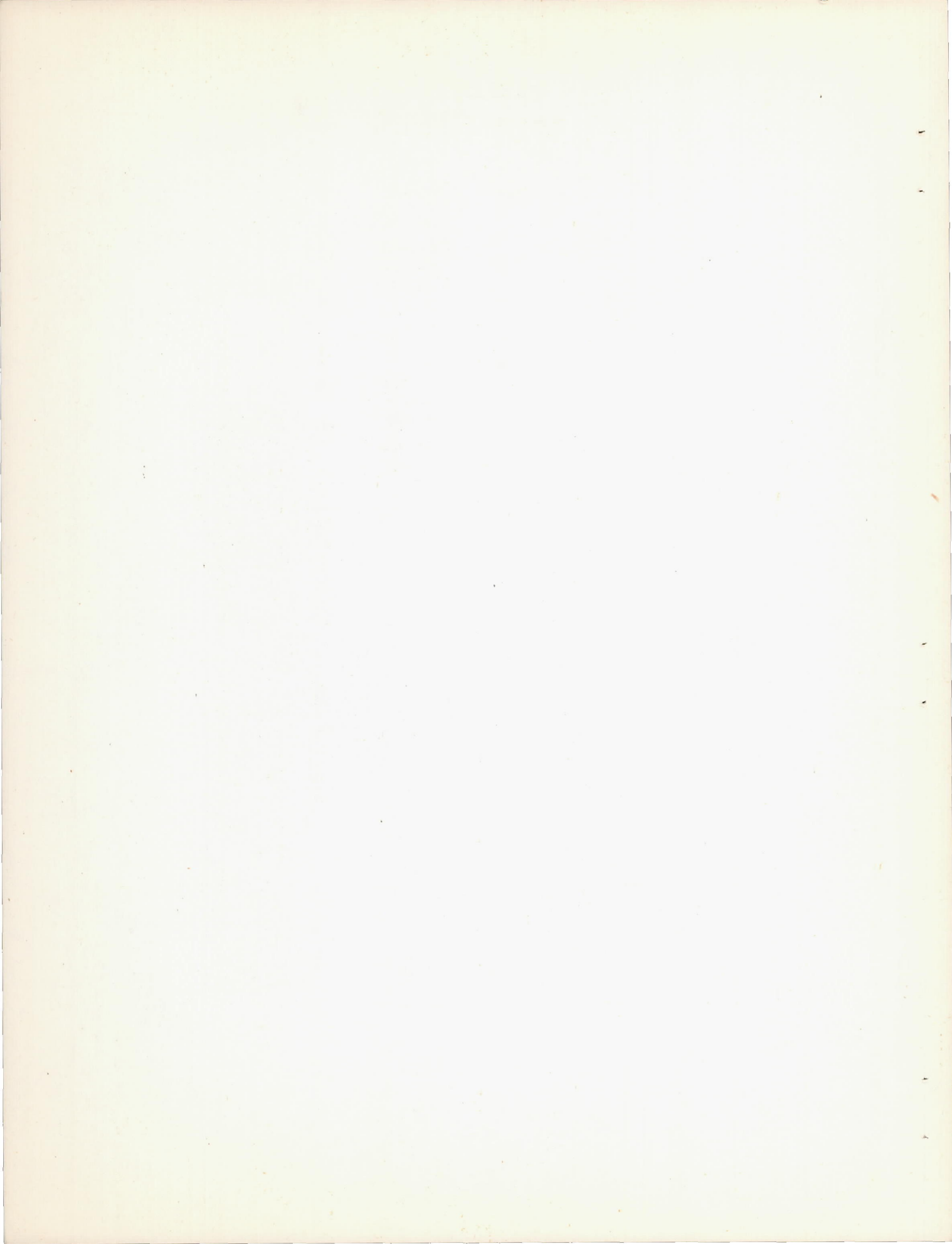
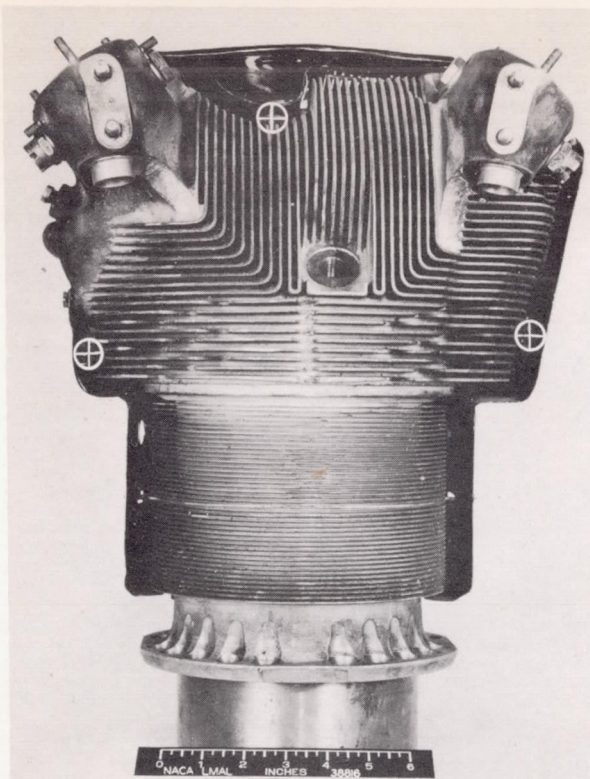


Figure 1.- R-2600-22 engine installation in PBM-3D ground-test setup.

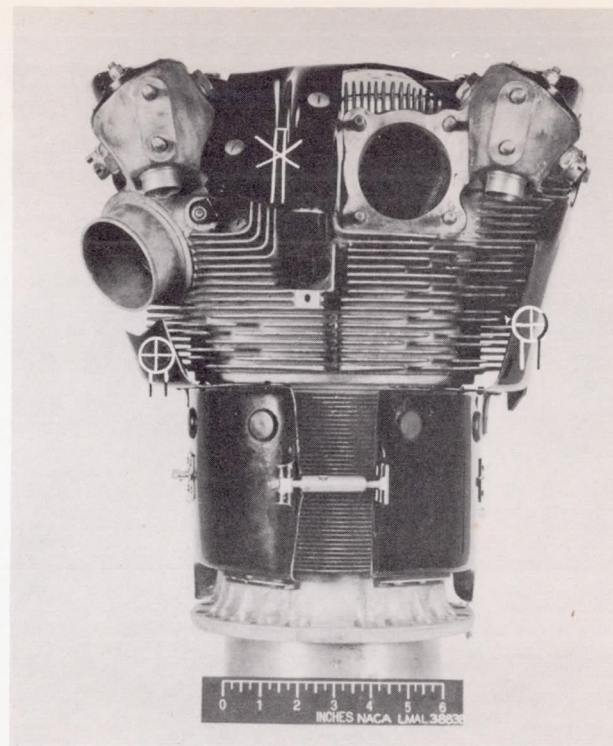








(a) Front of front cylinder



(b) Rear of rear cylinder

⊕ - total-pressure tube  
 ⊕ - open-end static tube  
 ⊕ - closed-end static tube

NACA  
 LMAL 39117.1

Figure 2.- Locations for pressure-tube installation on R-2600 cylinders.

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 LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY - LANGLEY FIELD, VA.

MR No. L5L18



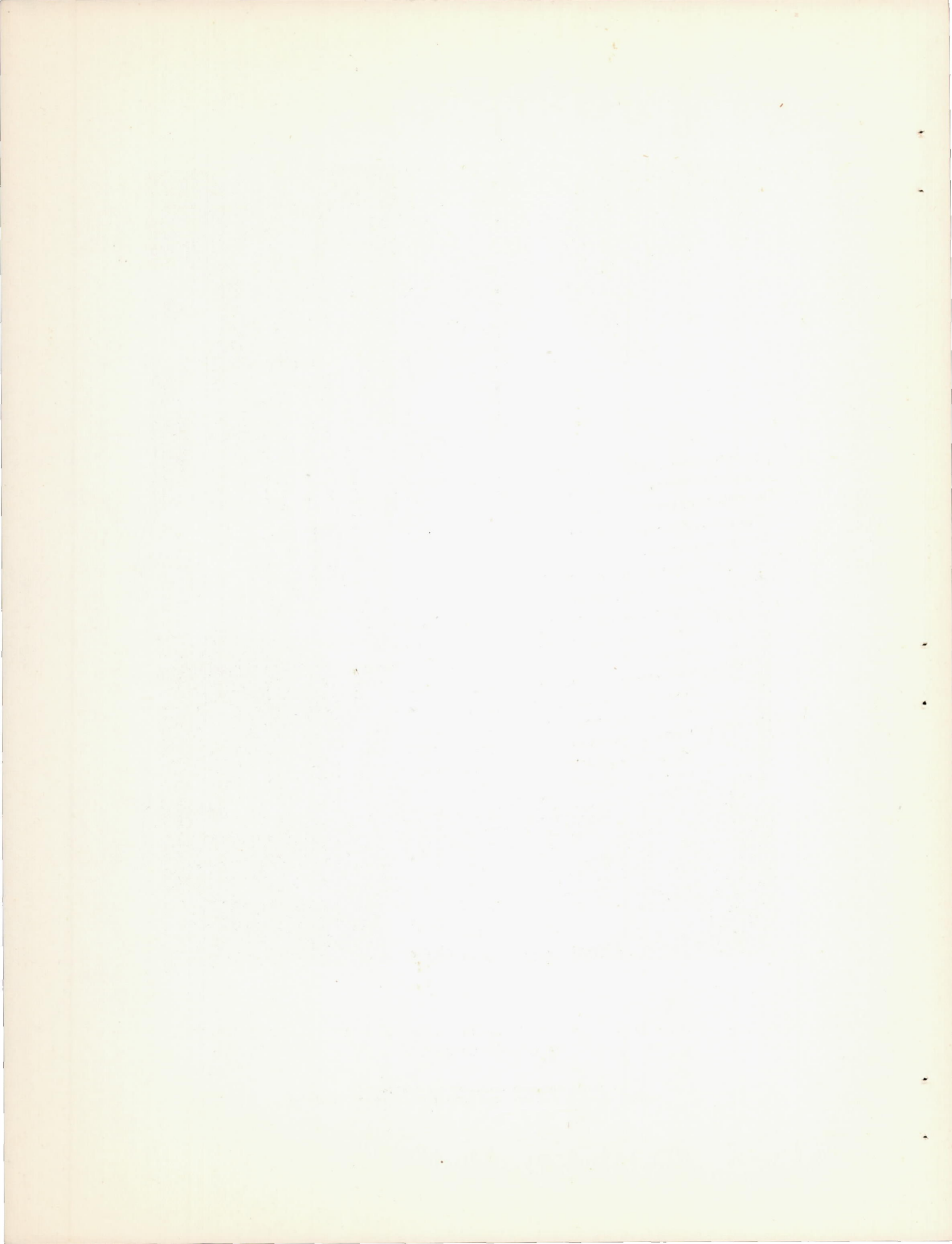






Figure 3.- Embedded thermocouple installed on front cylinder of R-2600 engine.







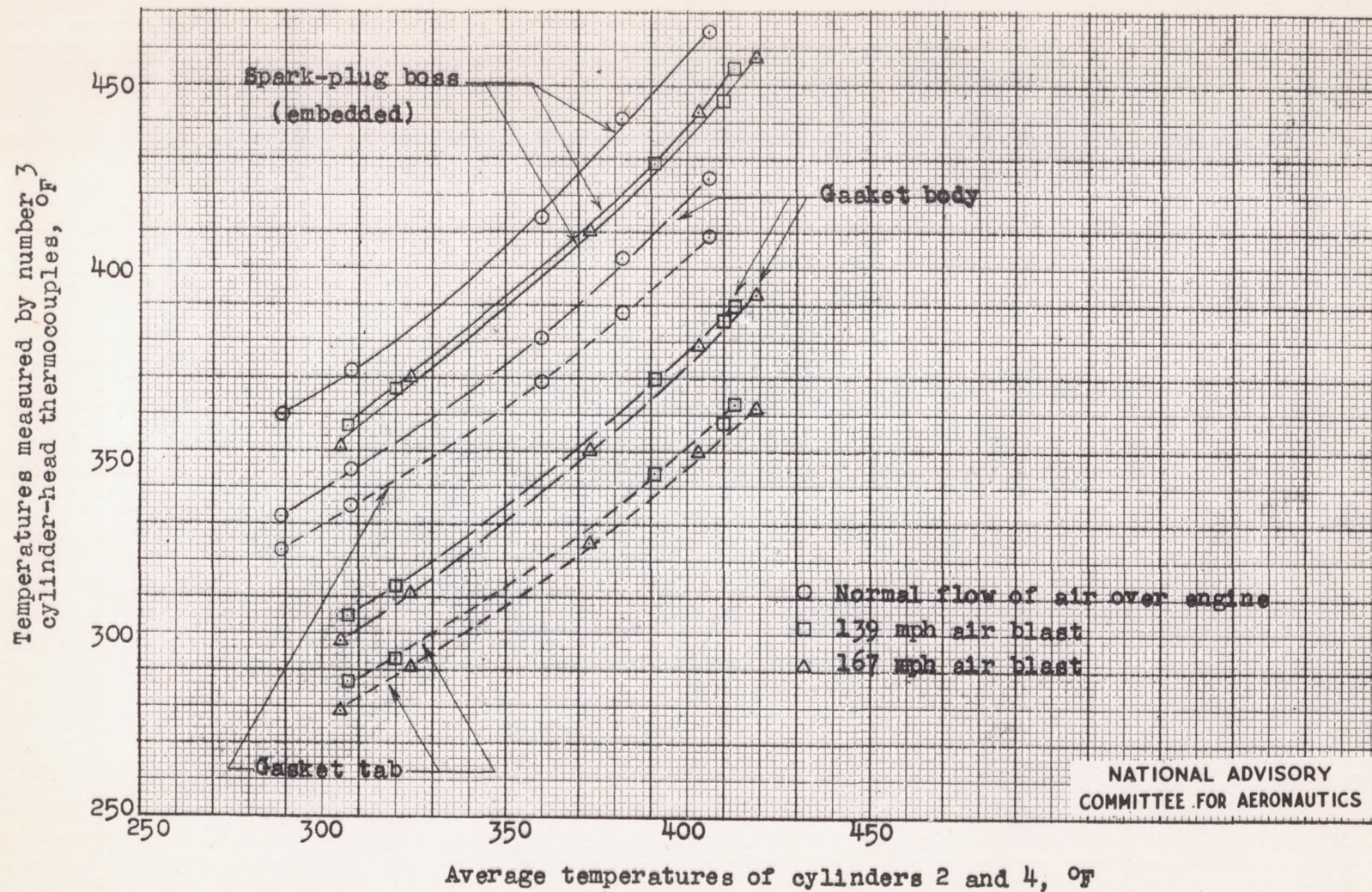
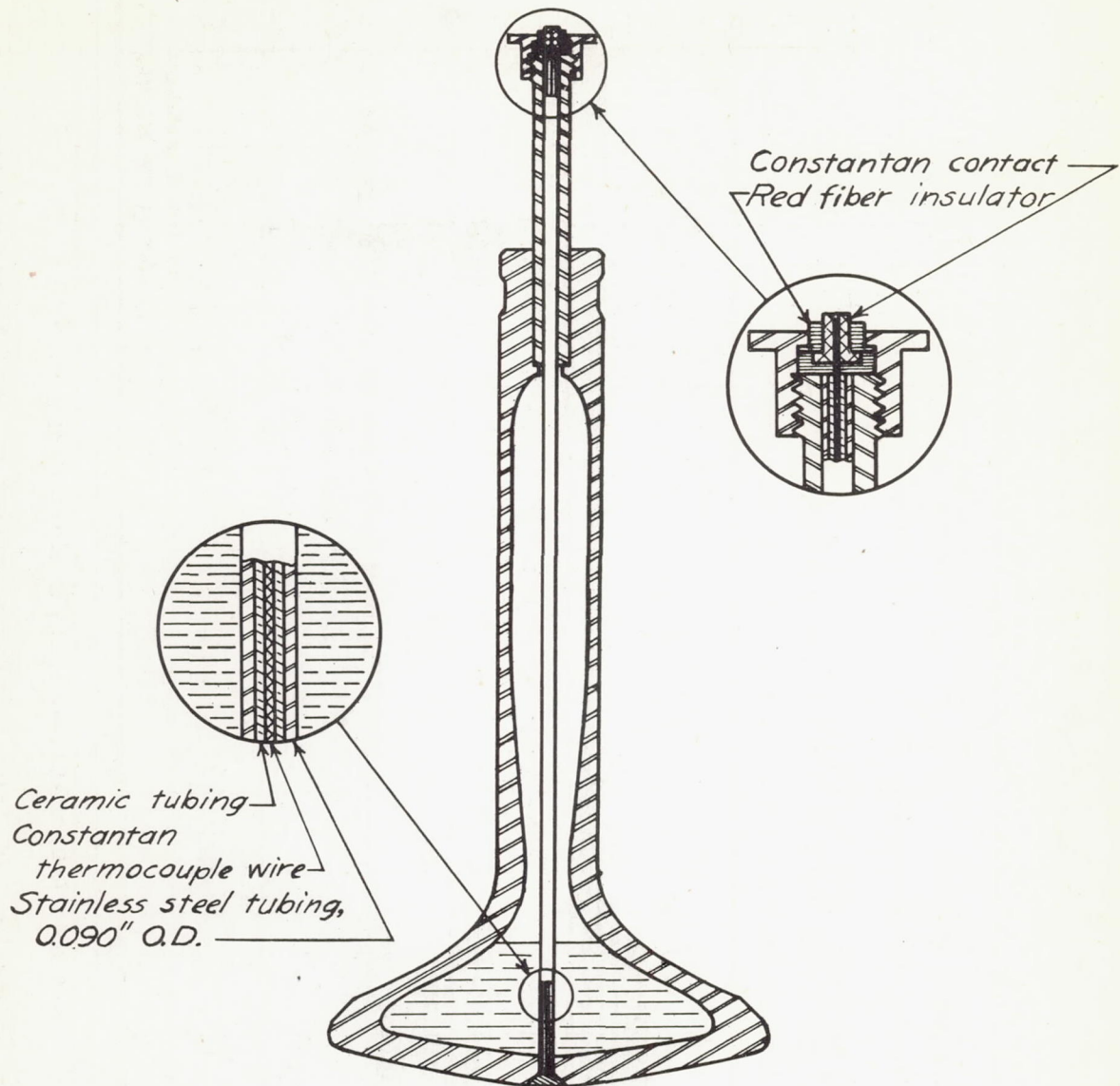


Figure 4.- Comparison of temperatures measured by test thermocouples.





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Figure 5.- Details of sodium-cooled exhaust valve equipped with a thermocouple.



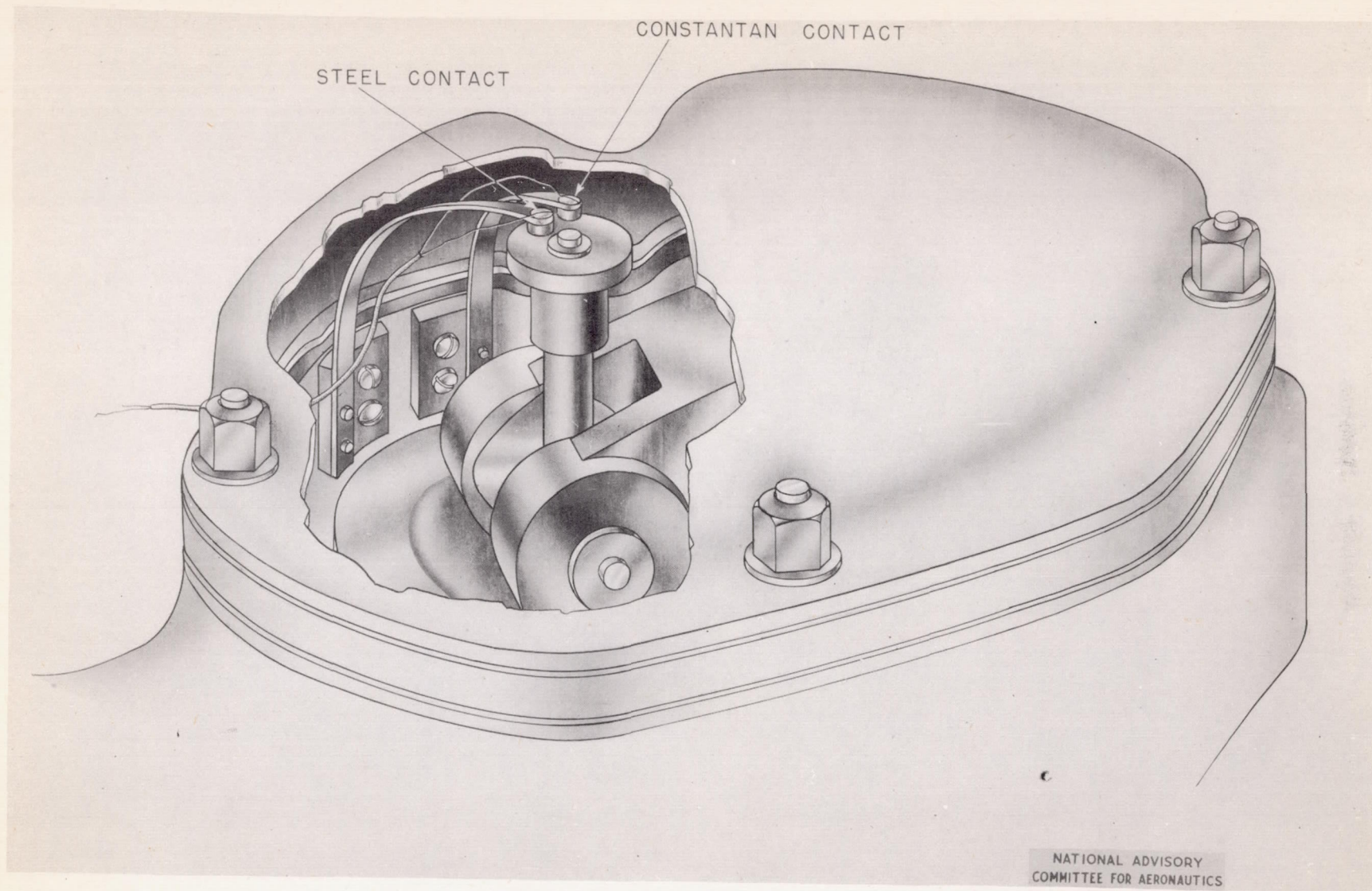
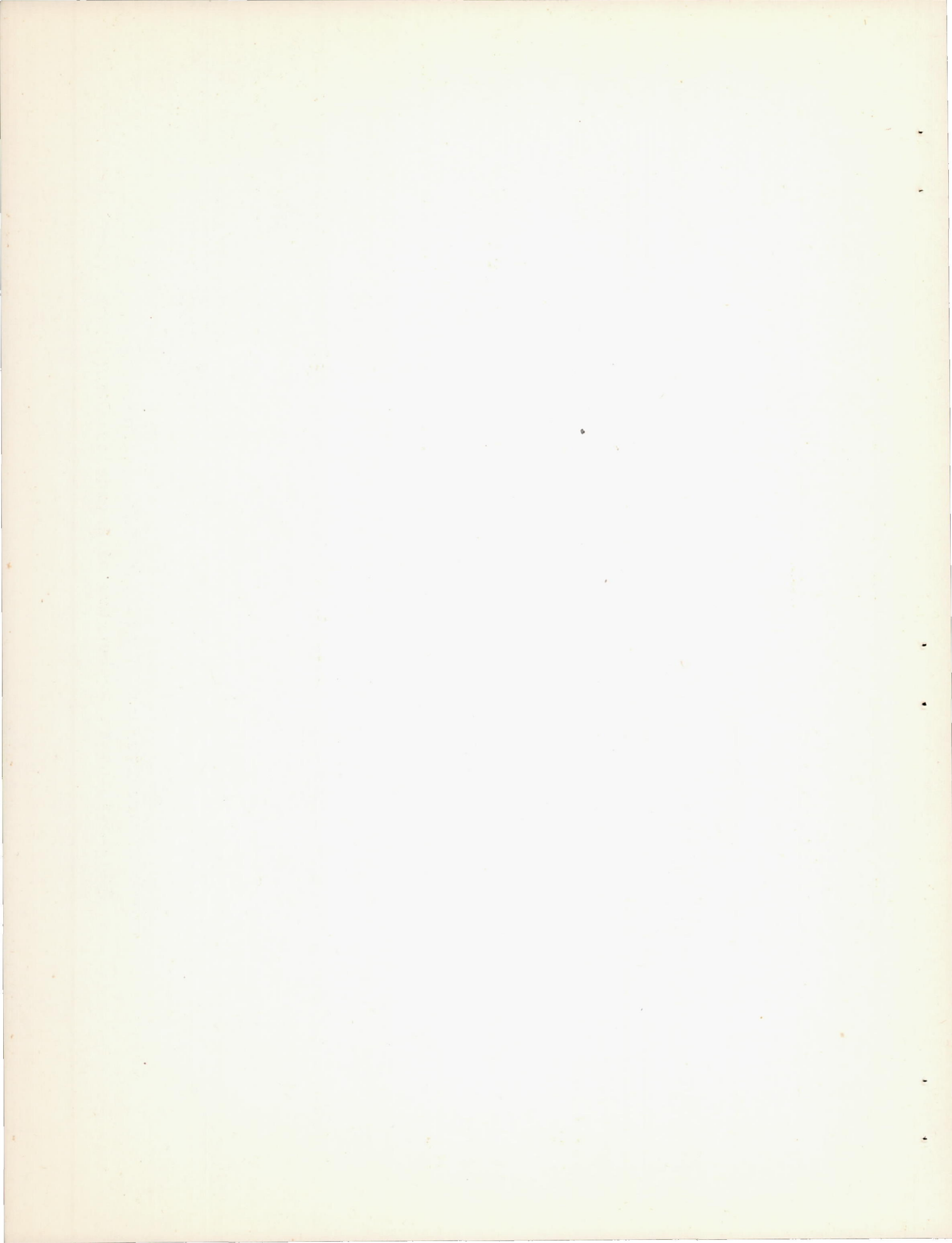


Figure 6. - General arrangement of exhaust-valve thermocouple contacts inside rocker-box of engine cylinder.

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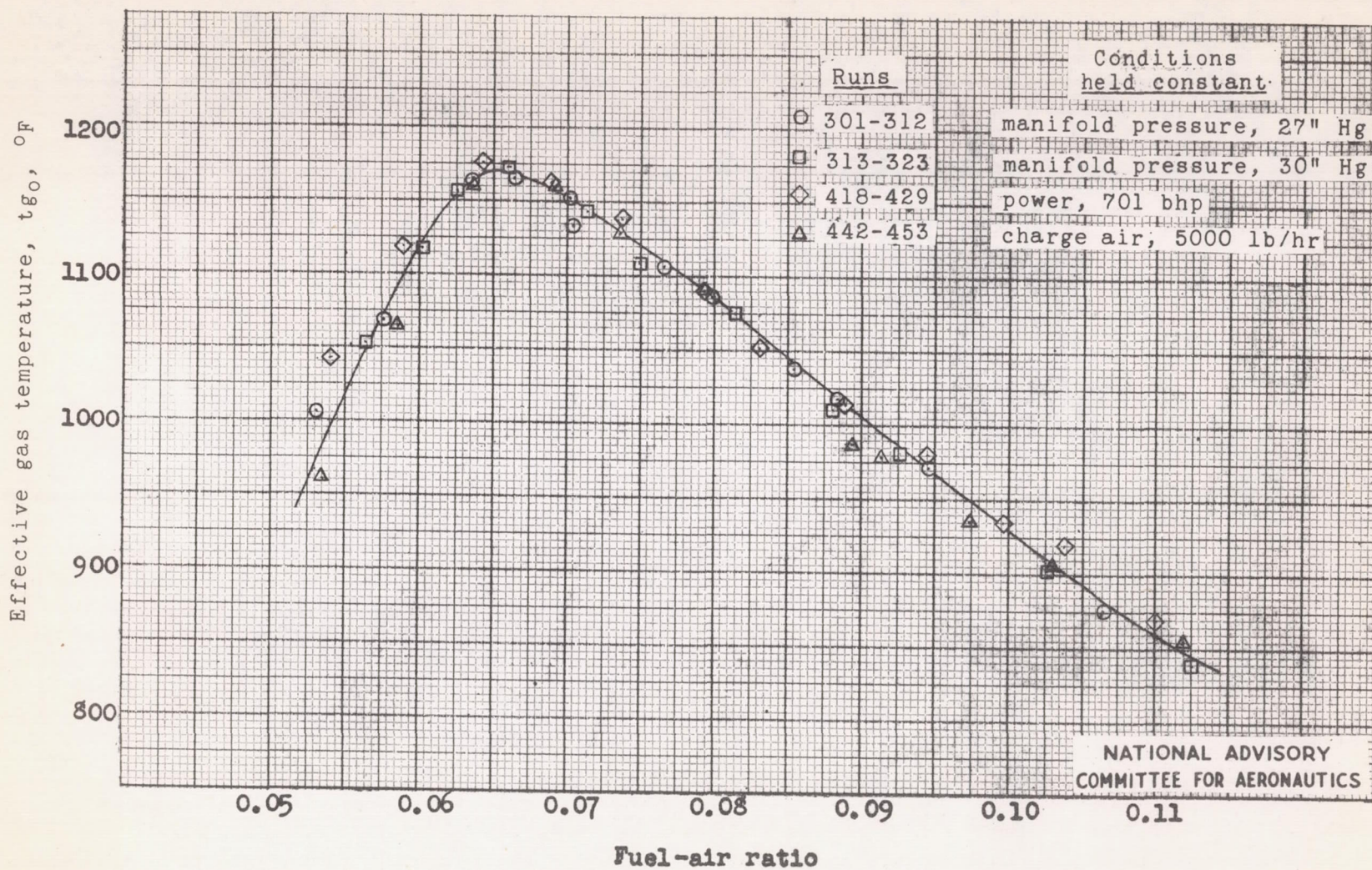


Figure 7.- Variation of effective gas temperature with fuel-air ratio.  
Cylinder heads; Wright R-2600-22 engine.



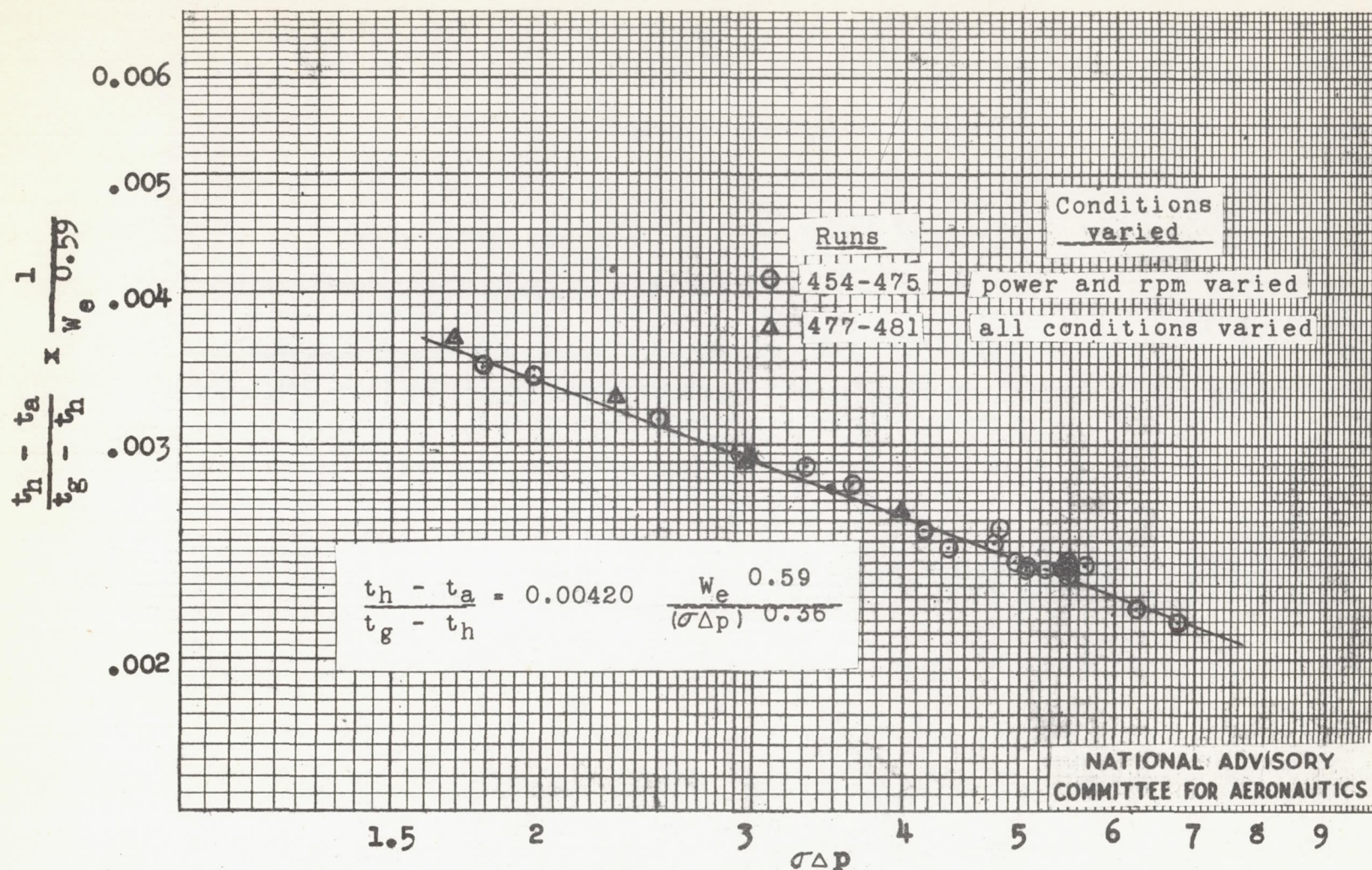


Figure 8.- Cooling characteristics of Wright R-2600-22 engine:  
Established correlation line referred to  $\sigma \Delta p$



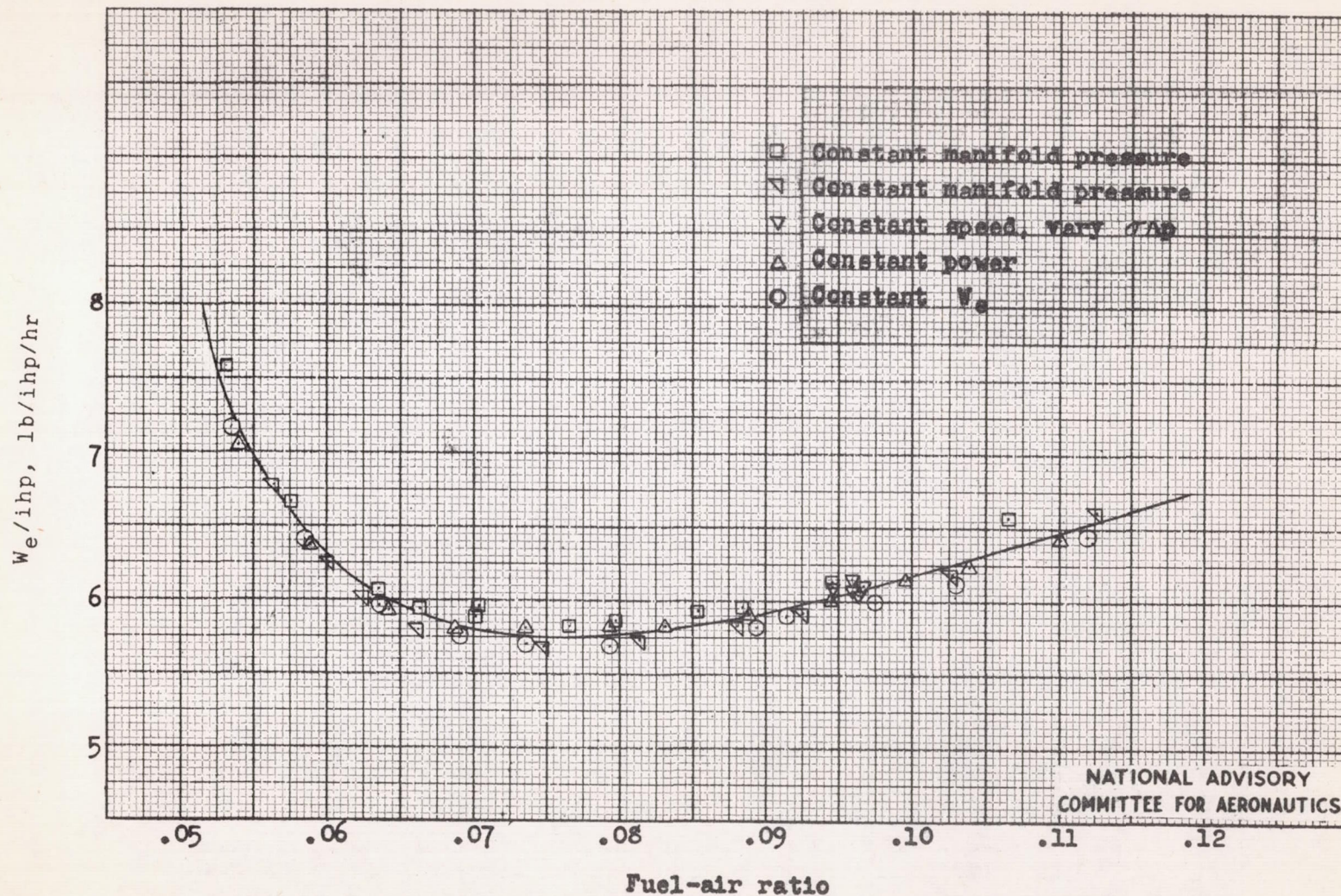


Figure 9.- Indicated specific air consumption; Wright R-2600-22 engine.



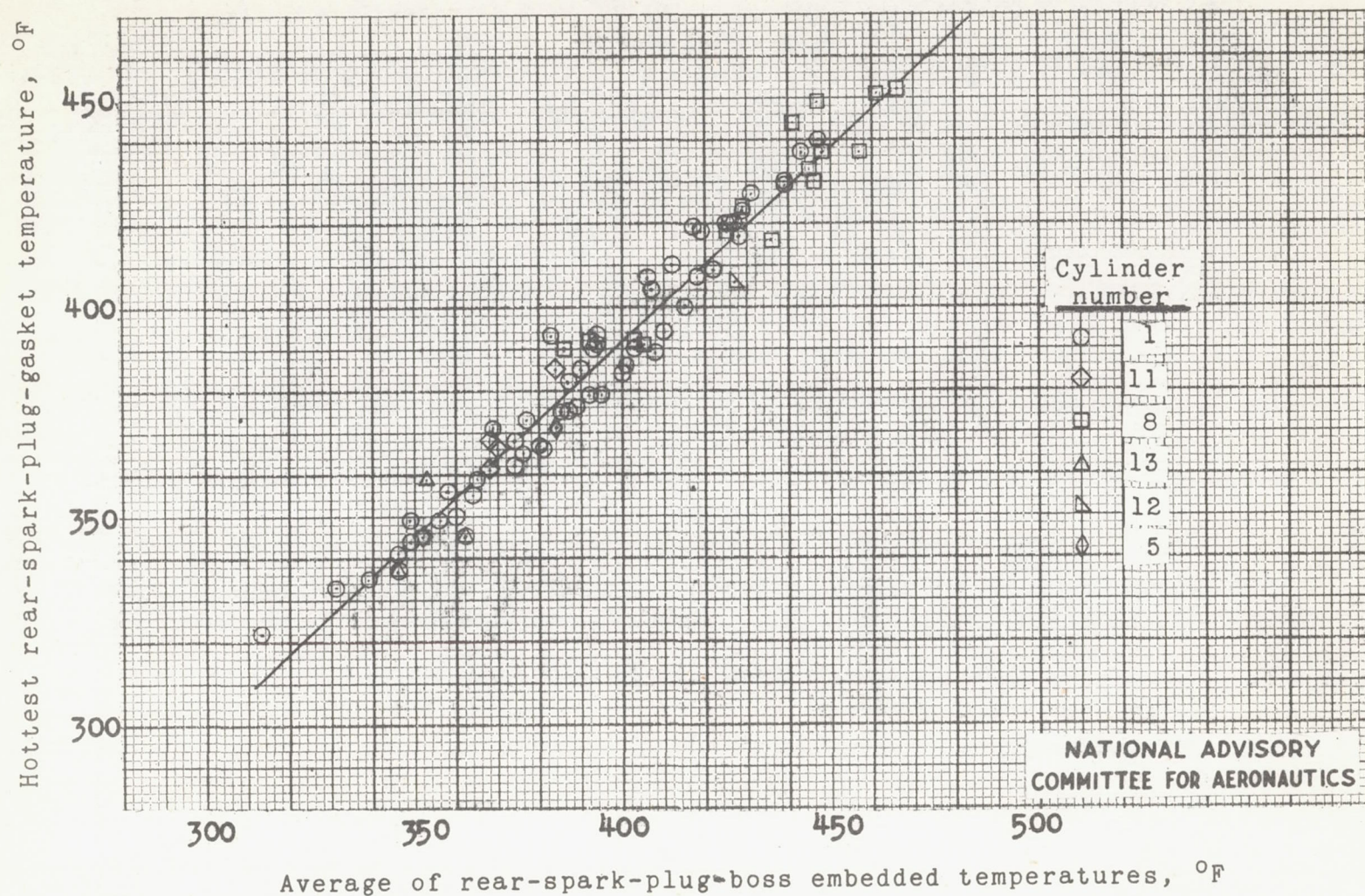


Figure 10.- Relationship of hottest rear-spark-plug-gasket temperature to average embedded head temperatures. Wright R-2600-22 engine.



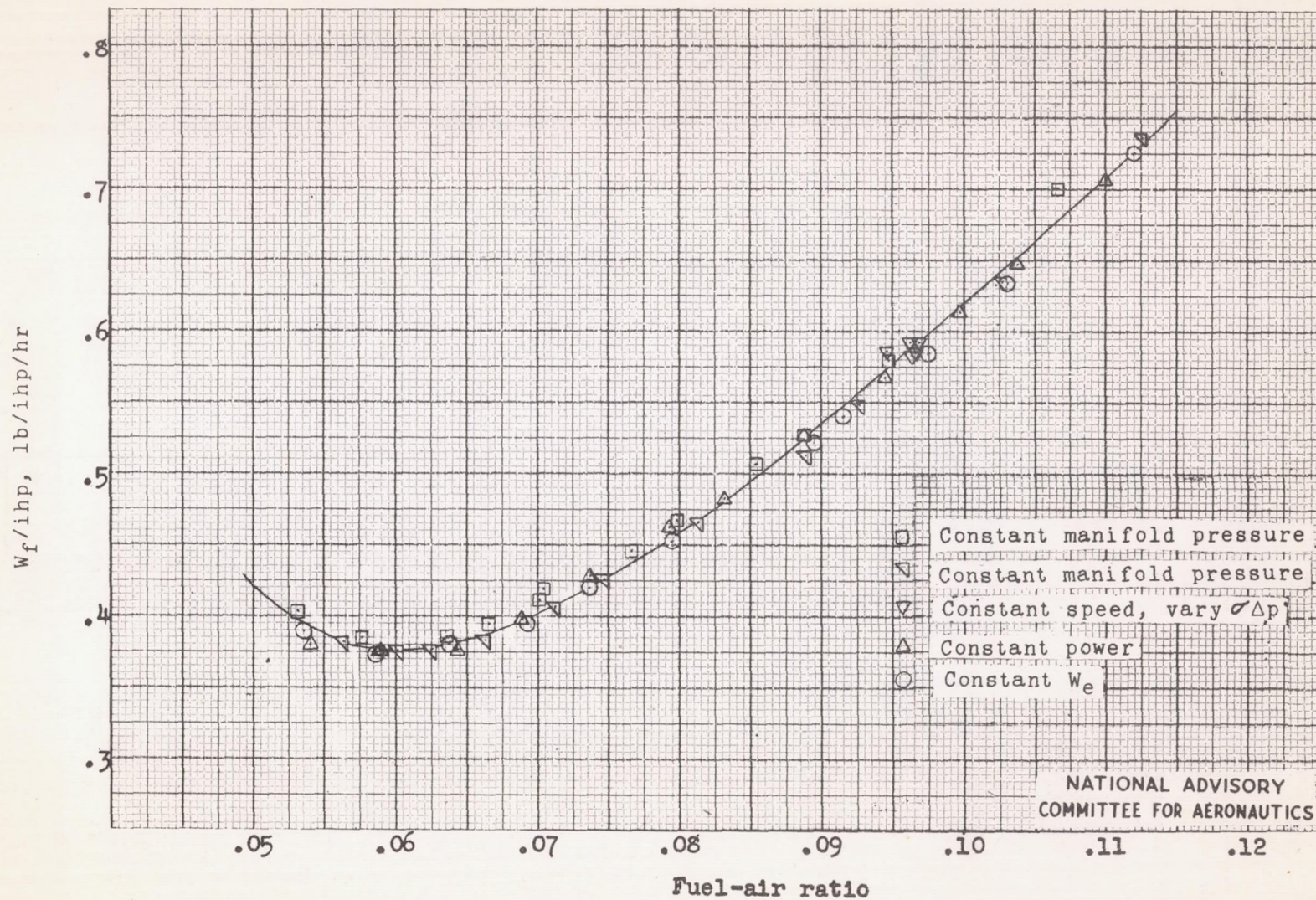


Figure 11.- Indicated specific fuel consumption; Wright R-2600-22 engine.



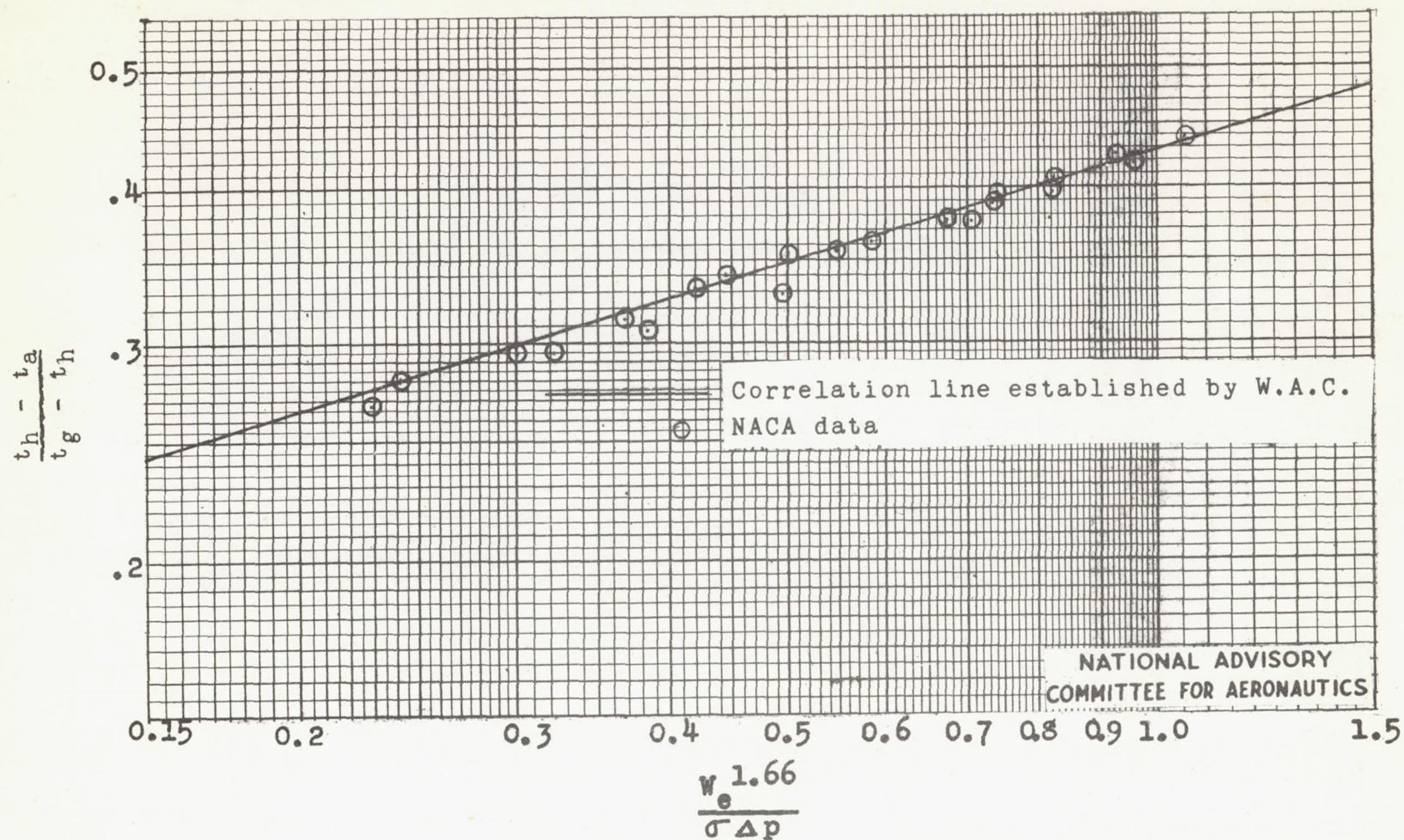


Figure 12.- Comparison of NACA data with Wright Aeronautical Corporation correlation.



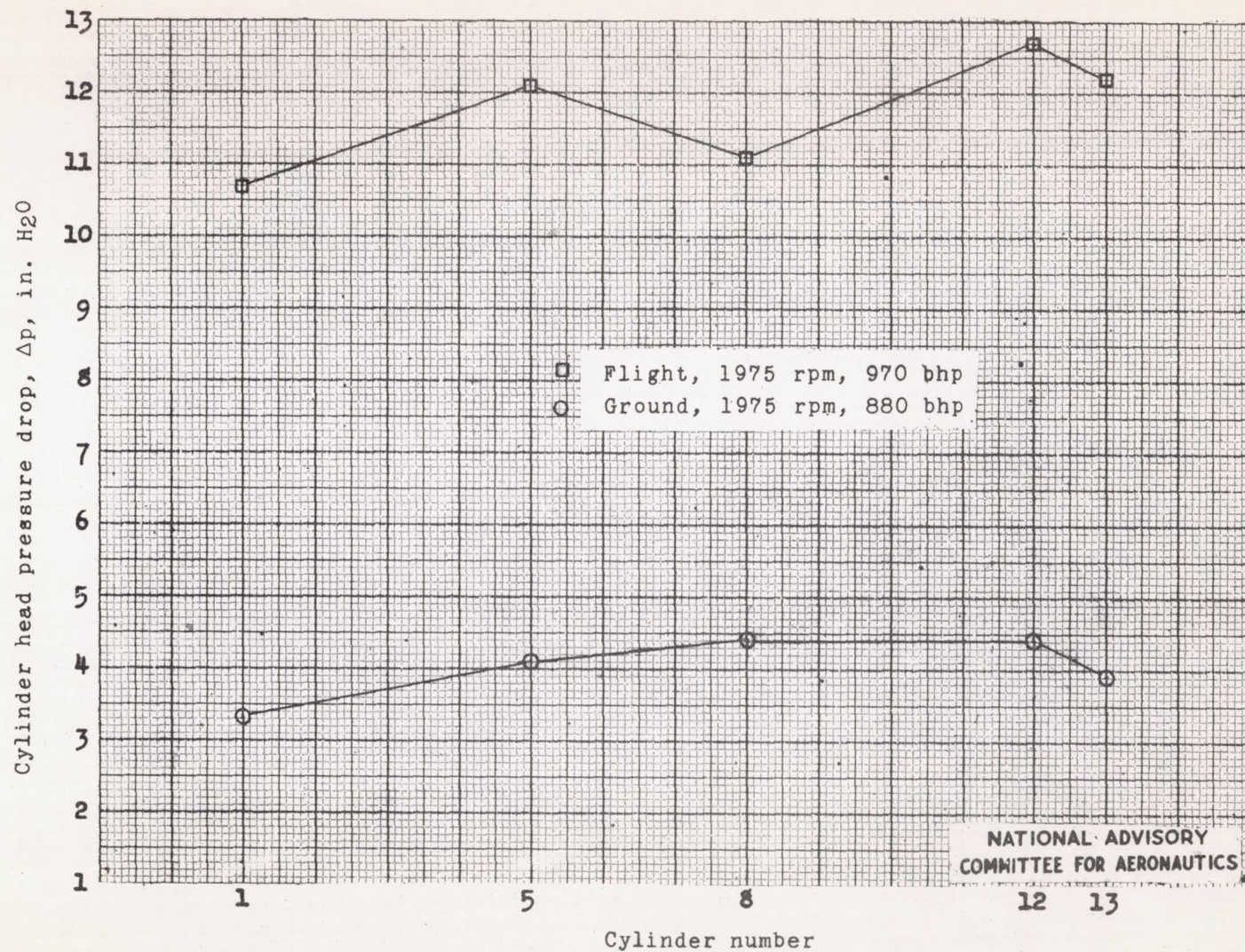


Figure 13.- Comparison of typical pressure-drop patterns for ground test and flight test. Both tests with Curtiss fans and original baffles. Wright R-2600-22 engines.



Rear-spark-plug-gasket temperature, °F.

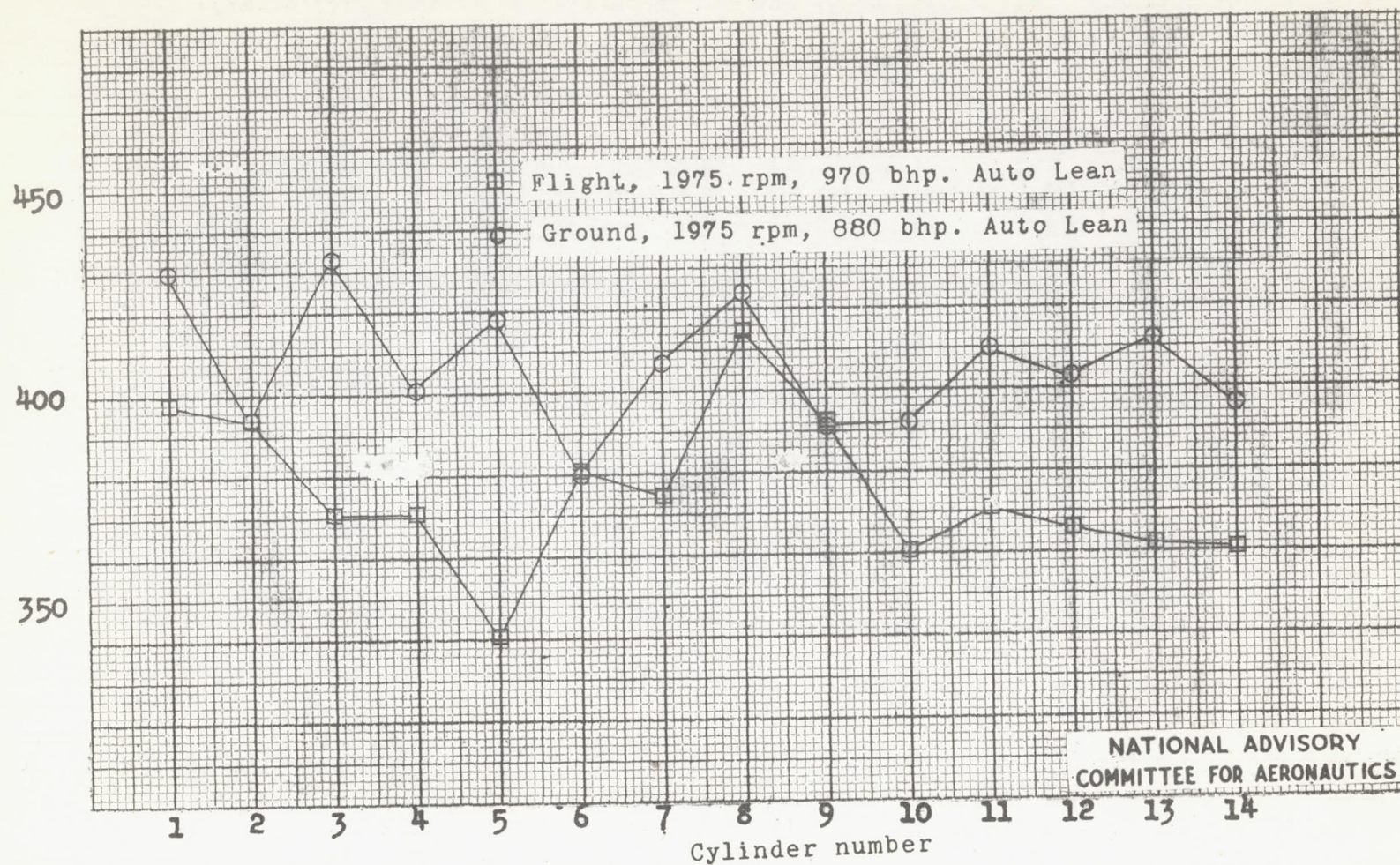


Figure 14.- Comparison of typical temperature patterns for ground test and flight test. Wright R-2600-22 engines.



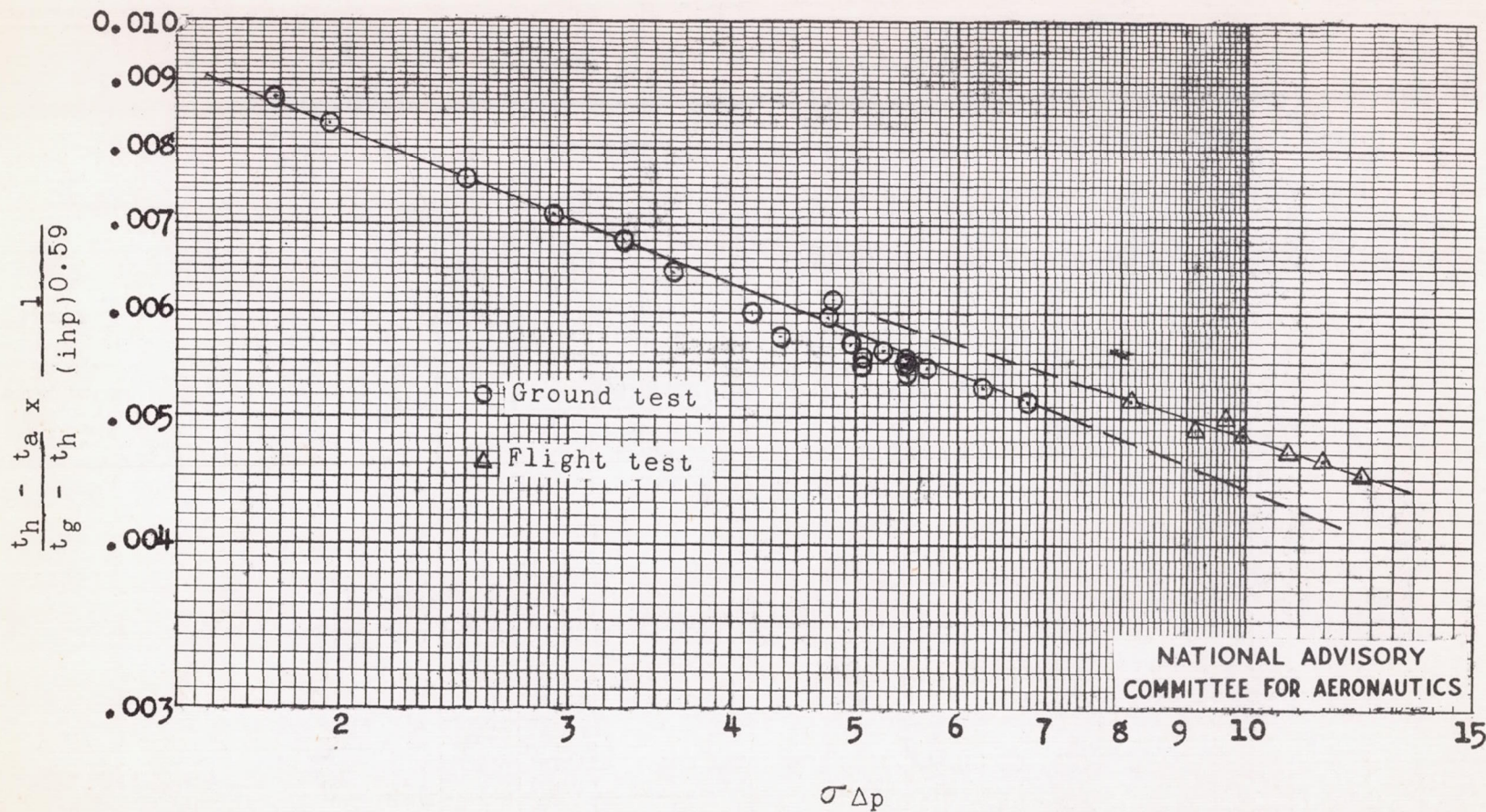


Figure 15.- Comparison of flight-test correlations and ground-test correlations.  
Wright R-2600-22 engines.



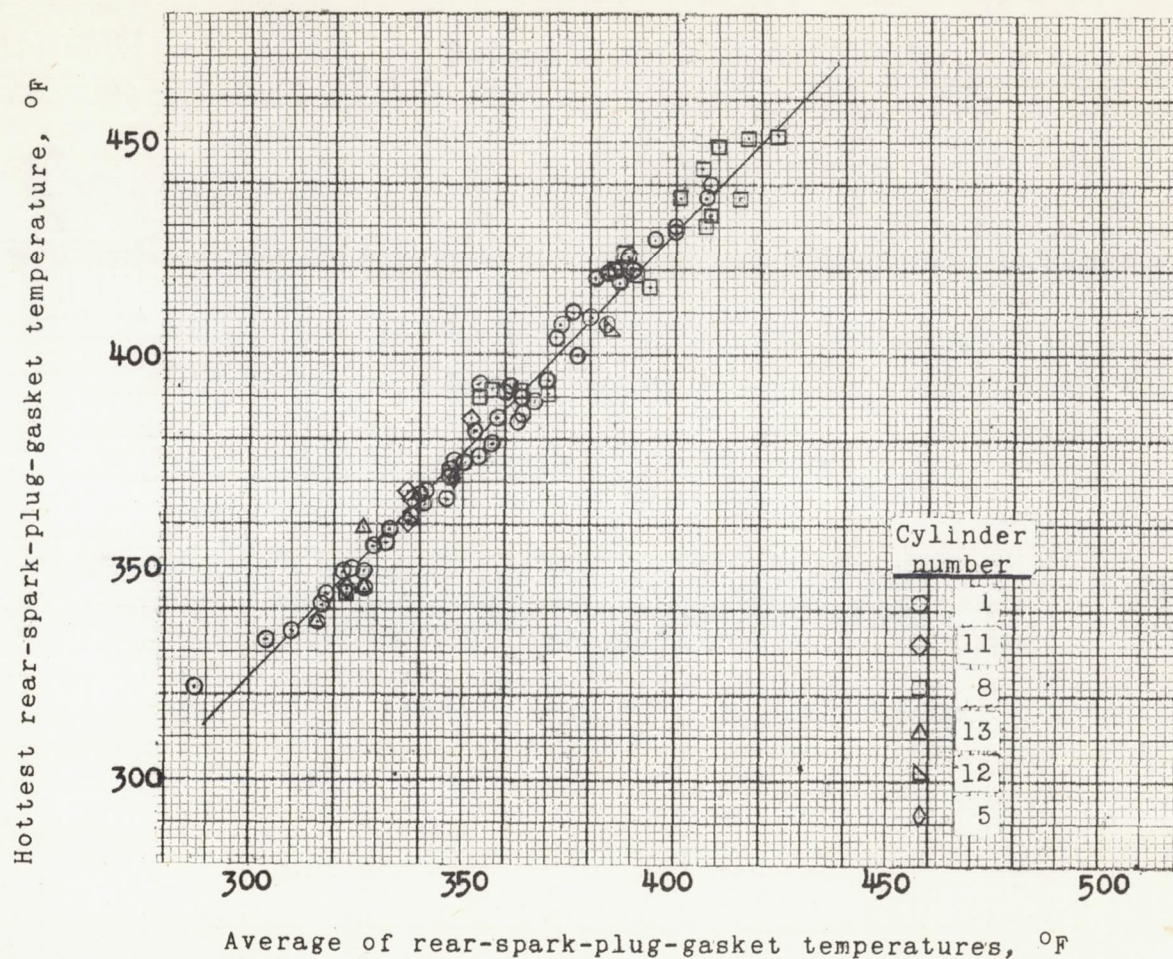


Figure 16.- Relationship of hottest rear-spark-plug-gasket temperatures to average rear-spark-plug-gasket temperatures. Wright R-2600-22 engine.

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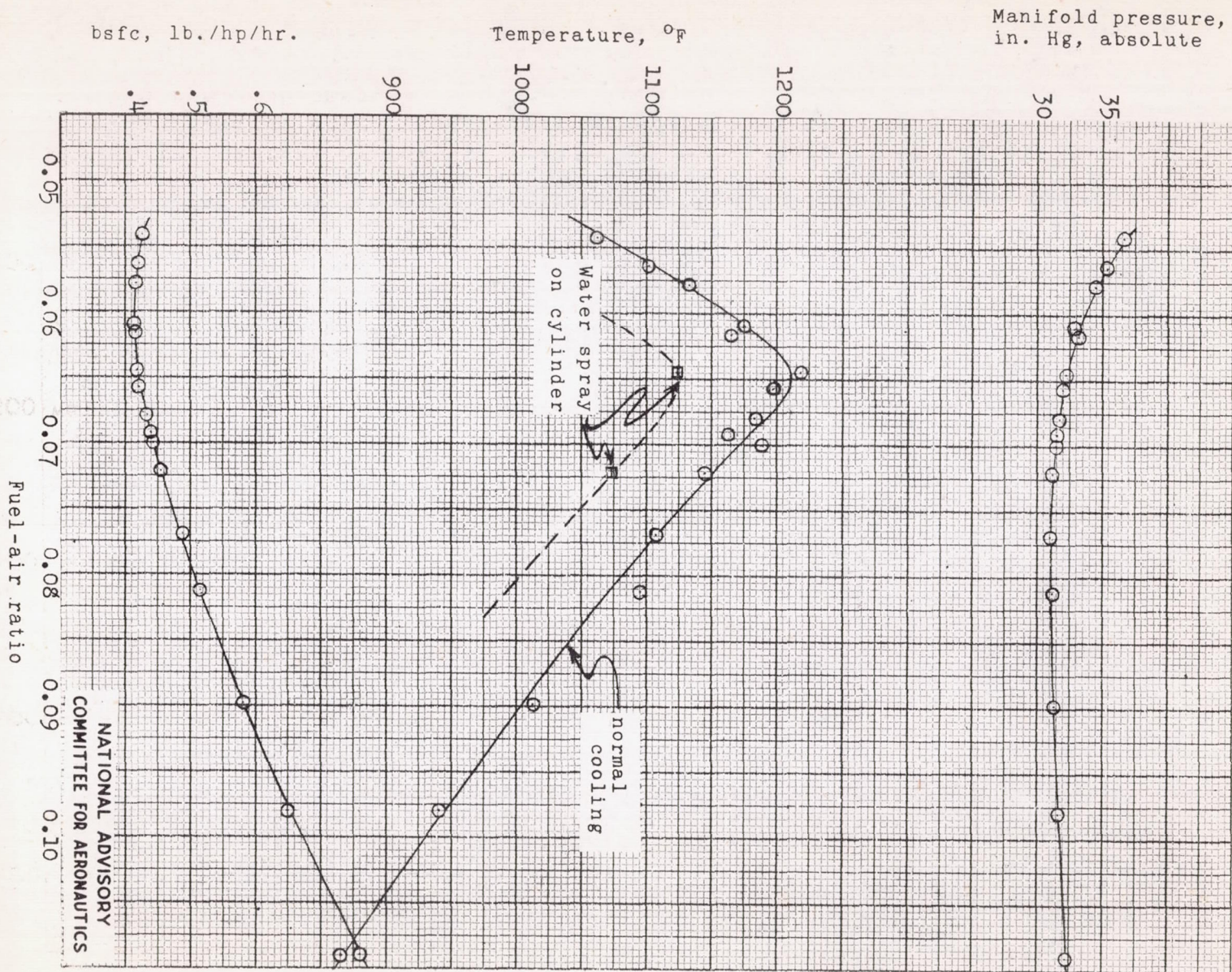


Figure 17.- Effect of fuel-air ratio on exhaust-valve crown temperature, bsfc, and required manifold pressure. Wright R-2600-22 engine, 1975 rpm, 150 bmep.

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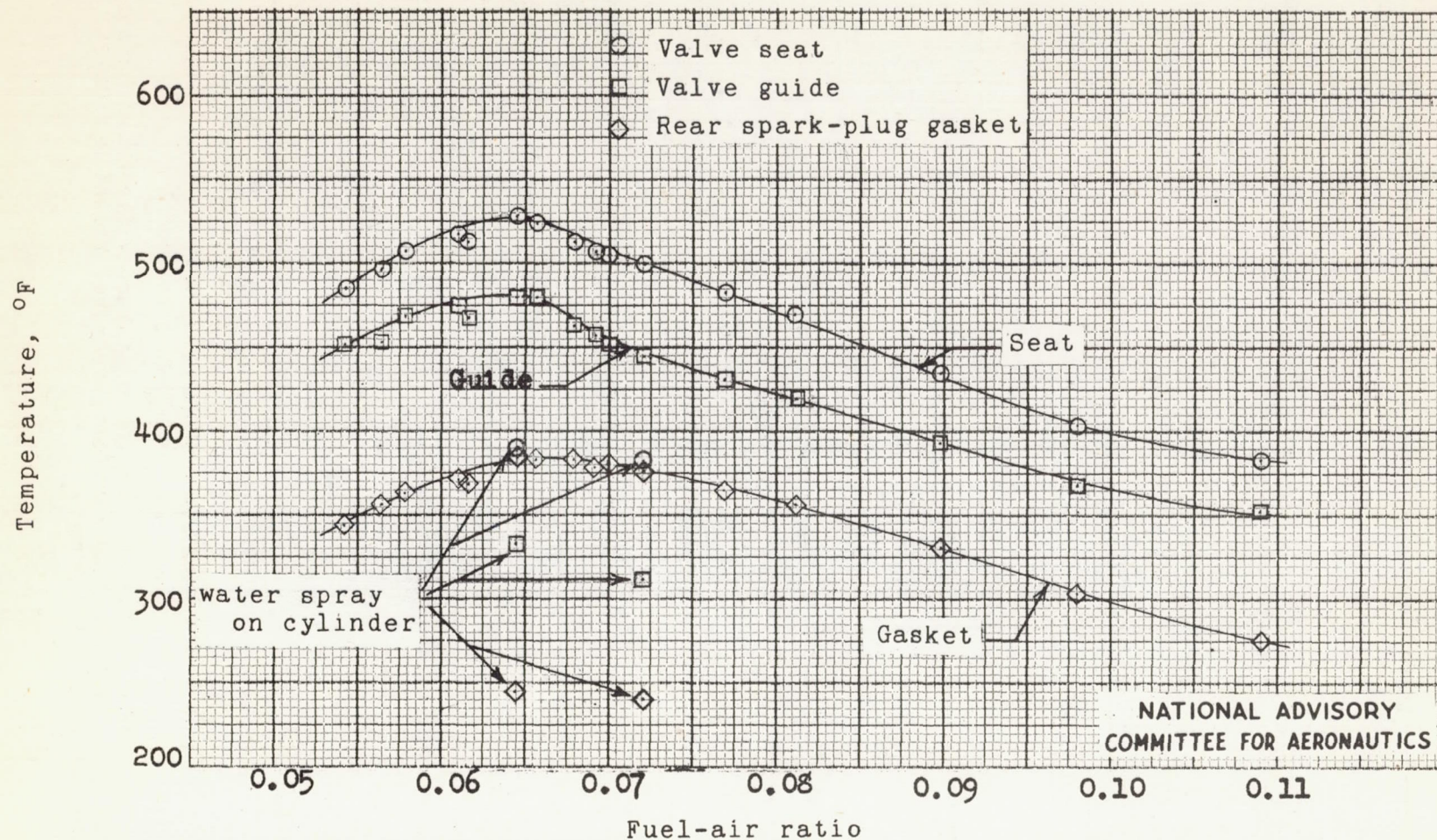


Figure 18.- Effect of fuel-air ratio on temperature of exhaust-valve seat, exhaust-valve guide, and rear spark-plug gasket. Wright R-2600-22 engine, 1975 rpm, 150 bmep.



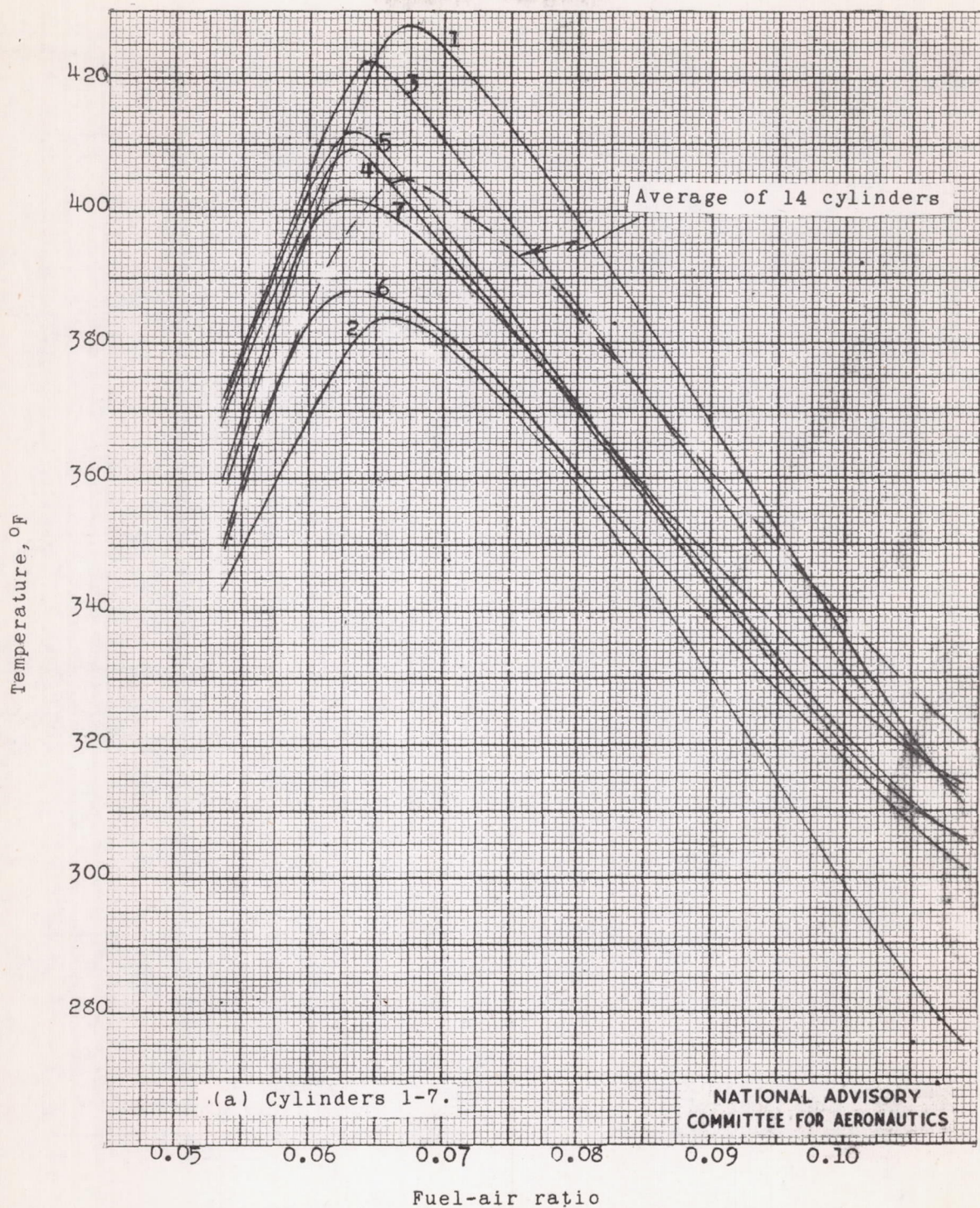


Figure 19.- Effect of changing engine fuel-air ratio on rear spark-plug gasket temperatures of different cylinders. Wright R-2600-22 engine, 1975 rpm, 150 bmep.



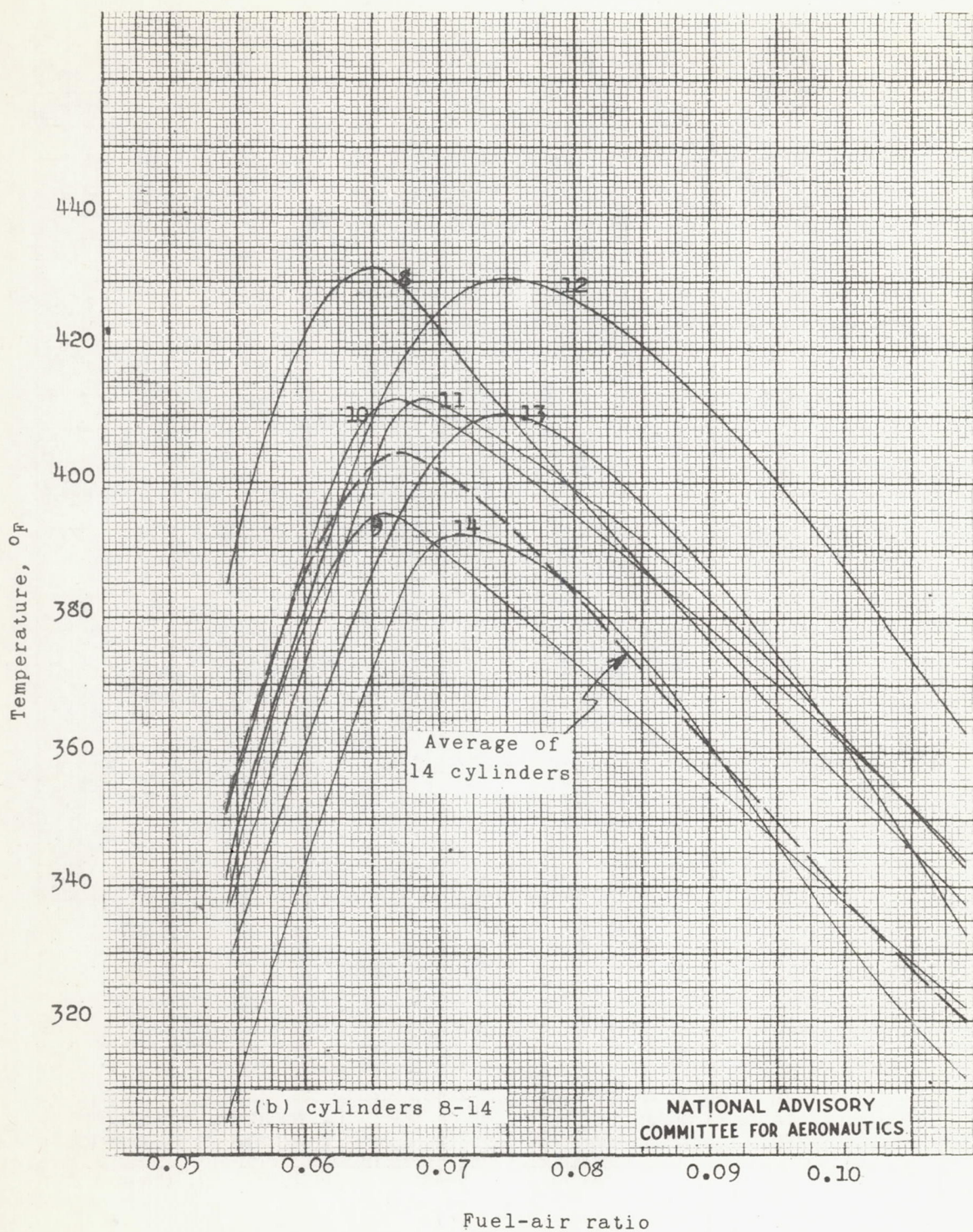


Figure 19.- Concluded.



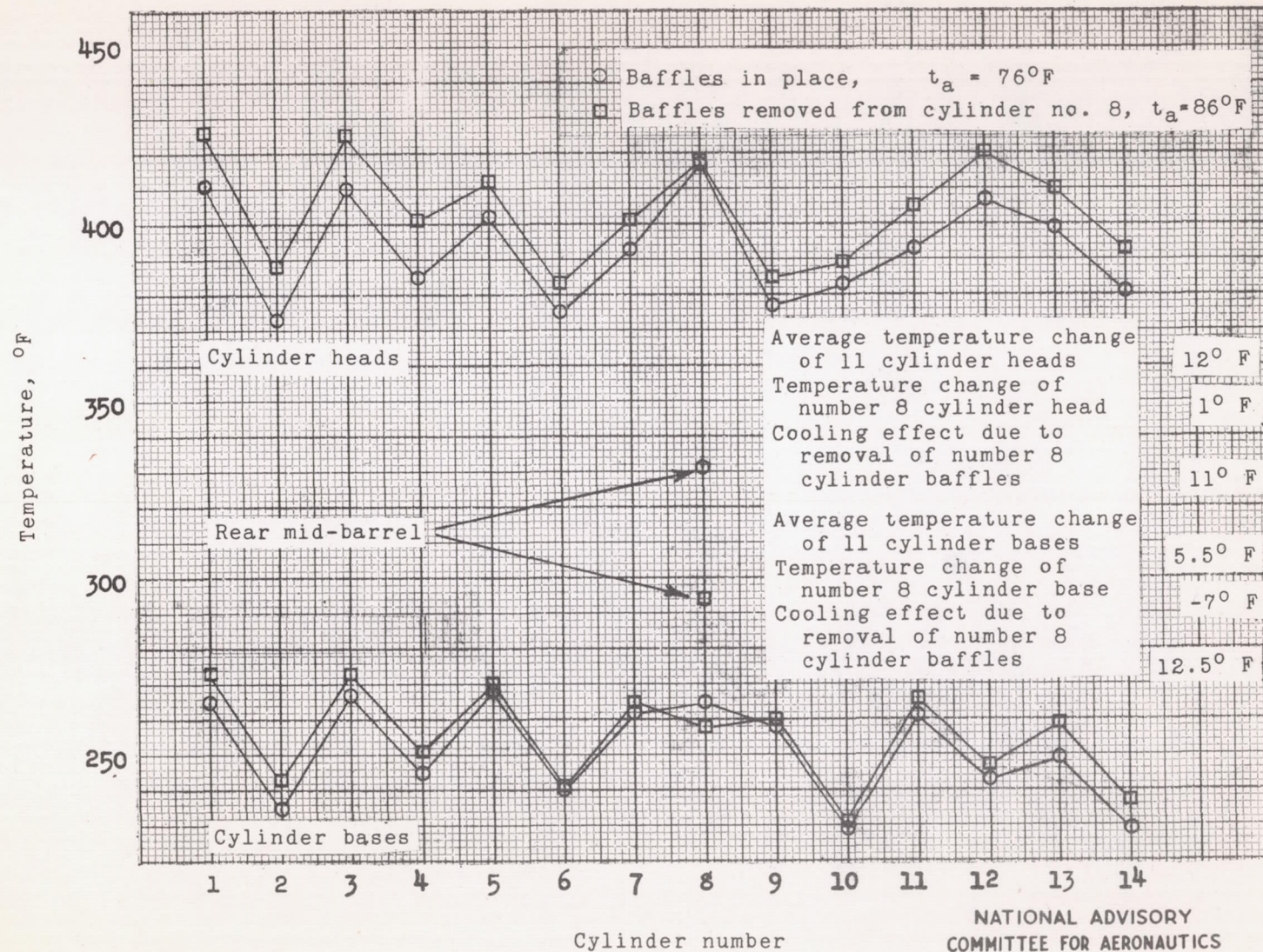


Figure 20.- Comparison of temperature patterns with baffles on and off of cylinder number 8. 1975 rpm, 0.079 F/A. Wright R-2600-22 engine. 880 bhp.



