CHAPTER VIII

LASHINGS

Lashings are used mainly to bind two or more poles firmly together in the construction of derricks, gin poles, "A" frames, and tripods. Rescuers should be proficient in their use. Lashings are generally made with a 50-foot length of 1/2-inch rope. The four basic lashings to be covered are: square lashing, round lashing, figure-eight lashing, and snatch-block sling.

A. SQUARE LASHING

This lashing is used to hold two poles together that cross at right angles. (See Fig. 65)

Steps in making a square lashing:

1. Lay out the pole with a ledger at a right angle to it.

2. Start with a clove hitch around the pole below the ledger and marry the running end to the standing part. Then take the married ends up and around the pole and the ledger. (See Fig. 65-A)

3. Repeat this circuit four times inside on the pole and outside on the ledger, drawing the rope as tight as possible.

4. Take four frapping turns around the whole lashing between the pole and the ledger. (See Fig. 65-B) Draw tight, and finish with a clove hitch (See Fig. 65-C) on the ledger. Fig. 65-D shows the square lashing viewed from the back.
B. ROUND LASHING

This lashing is used to hold two poles together to form an "A" frame. (See Fig. 66)

Steps in making a round lashing:

1. Lay two poles out with butts even. Place spacers between the poles (approximately two inches thick) and tie together with a draw hitch near the base of the poles.

2. Start with a clove hitch approximately 36 inches down from the tip of the shortest pole and marry the ends.

3. Continue with six close round turns around both poles, traveling upward. (See Figure 66-A)

4. Make two strapping turns around poles, draw tight, and finish with a clove hitch on the opposite pole from where you started at the bottom of the lashing. (See Figure 66-A). The remainder of the rope can be coiled around the pole.

Note: Turns should be counted on the outside pole, then return to the nearest pole before starting strapping turns on an "A" frame and tripod.

C. FIGURE-OF-EIGHT LASHING

This lashing is used to hold three poles that form a tripod. (See Figure 67 on Page 76.)

1. Lay out three poles with butts even. Place spacers between the poles (two inches thick) and tie together near the base with a draw hitch.

2. Start the lashing approximately 36 inches down from the top of the shortest pole on the nearest pole with a clove hitch and marry the ends. Then take the rope over and under the three poles in a figure-of-eight fashion. Make at least six turns, working upward. (See Fig. 67-A, 67-B, 67-C on page 76)

3. Then make two strapping turns between the first and second poles and two strapping turns between the second and third poles.

4. Finish off with a clove hitch on the outside pole below the lashing. The remainder of the rope can be coiled around the outside pole.

D. SNATCH-BLOCK LASHING

This lashing is used to secure snatch blocks to the base of derricks, "A" frames, tripods, jibs, etc. This is used primarily to change direction on the pull. (See Fig. 68 on page 77)
Steps in making a snatch block sling:

1. Start at the base of the pole with a clove hitch and marry the ends. Make two round turns on the pole, working upward.

2. Make two loose turns around the pole by passing the rope through the palm of the hand.

3. Put two half hitches over the loose turns and draw down tightly.

4. Follow the lay of the rope and continue to make tight turns around the pole.

5. Finish with a clove hitch.

**Note:** This lashing can generally be done with a 1/2" x 25' rope, or with a rescuer's body cord.

Figure-Of-Eight Lashing
Figure 67-A, 67-B, 67-C
Snatch Block Sling
Figure 68