

Packard **SERVICE TECHNICAL** **Bulletin**

54T-10
May 4, 1954

To: ZONES ONLY (CONFIDENTIAL)

Subject: ENGINE ROUGHNESS - 359 CU. IN. ENGINE

We have received a few reports of 359 cu. in. engine roughness when idling or operating at low speeds. Grinding valves, replacing manifold gaskets and carburetors have failed to correct this condition in some instances.

The camshaft in this engine was designed to obtain the utmost in horsepower and high speed performance although low speed smoothness was sacrificed slightly.

Some owners may consider this roughness excessive and insist that it be eliminated. A complaint of this type should be handled in the following manner:

1. Make sure that the compression is up to standard and evenly balanced in all cylinders.
2. Inspect the manifold gaskets for possible leaks and replace if necessary.
3. Make sure the engine is tuned and timed properly. Be sure the carburetor is functioning properly.
4. If the preceding items are checked and found to be satisfactory and engine roughness is still considered excessive, then install a new camshaft Part No. 465074.

(All 359 cu. in. production engines after Serial No. M601981 will have this new type camshaft)

After a new type camshaft has been installed in the field, a dab of yellow paint should be placed on the block following the engine serial number for identification purposes.

Specifications show a 3.54 to 1 rear axle gear ratio listed for the 5406 and 5431 models but at the beginning of 54th Series it was decided to use the 3.9 to 1 gear ratio for added performance.

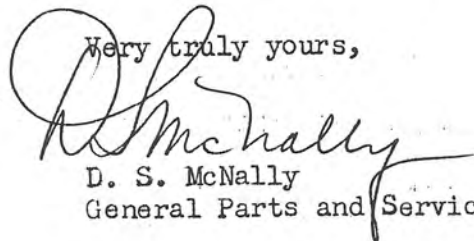
At the same time that the new type camshaft was started in production, the rear axle gear ratio was changed to 3.54 to 1 as was originally specified.

Some complaints may arise of excessive engine roar at extreme high speeds in these cars with the 3.9 to 1 gear ratio. There may be some instances

where it will be necessary to install the 3.54 to 1 gear ratio to eliminate the engine roar. When the gear ratio is changed to the 3.54 to 1, be sure to install a new speedometer pinion and shaft assembly Part No. 434320.

This information is not being released to the field for the purpose of campaigning every car. We are passing this information on to you only so that you may satisfactorily handle any serious complaints you receive on this condition.

Very truly yours,



D. S. McNally
General Parts and Service Manager

HGL:jb