

PERSHING II REDUCED RANGE – THE THIRD GENERATION

INTRODUCTION

The Pershing II Reduced Range (PII RR) weapon system is a derivative of the Pershing generation of missiles presently deployed in Europe. PII RR is a single stage missile that has the same range capabilities as the Pershing 1a missile, but is as accurate and flexible as the Pershing II weapon system currently being developed for the U. S. Army by Martin Marietta Orland Aerospace.

The PII RR system can be designed to transport and launch two missiles from one erector launcher. This booklet presents a technical description of the missile and erector launcher.

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

The PII RR weapon system configuration takes advantage of as many proven PII design features as possible. Only in instances where the PII design could not be used were they changed to meet the PII RR requirements.

The PII RR missile consists of the Pershing II (PII) first stage rocket motor and a PII reentry vehicle/adaptor section as shown in Figure 1. Two PII RR missiles mounted on a newly designed four jack erector launcher (EL) can be simultaneously counted down and sequentially launched. PII RR erector launcher with missiles is shown in Figure 2.

The PII RR EL is towed by a 7-ton M.A.N. 6x6 tactical tractor which also transports a 30 KW diesel engine driven generator set to provide primary ground power for EL operations and missile ground operations. This tractor is capable of towing the loaded EL at required highway speeds and provides for limited cross country travel. The 7-ton M.A.N. belongs to the family of second generation vehicles in the West German Army. Many major components and systems of the new PII RR EL are common to existing Pershing designs as shown in Table 1.

A canvas cover, strapped to roof bows, covers the EL at all times to provide environmental protection for the missiles and launcher. The EL cover also masks its signature as a missile carrier during travel.

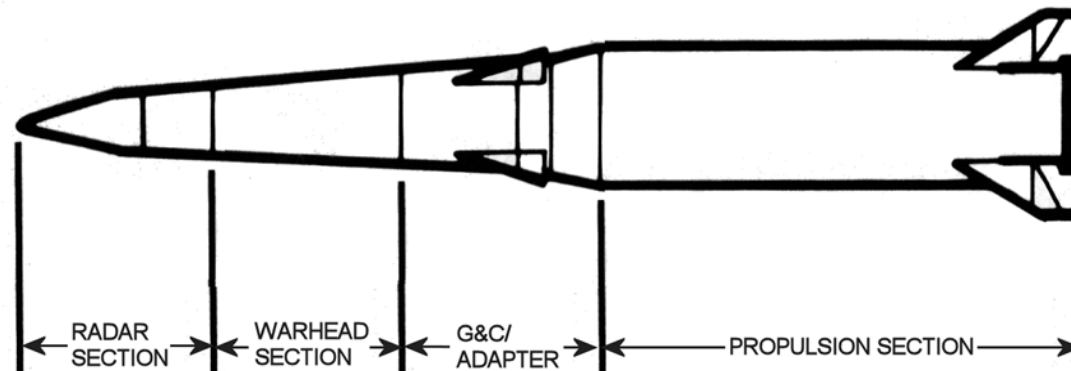


Figure 1. PII RR

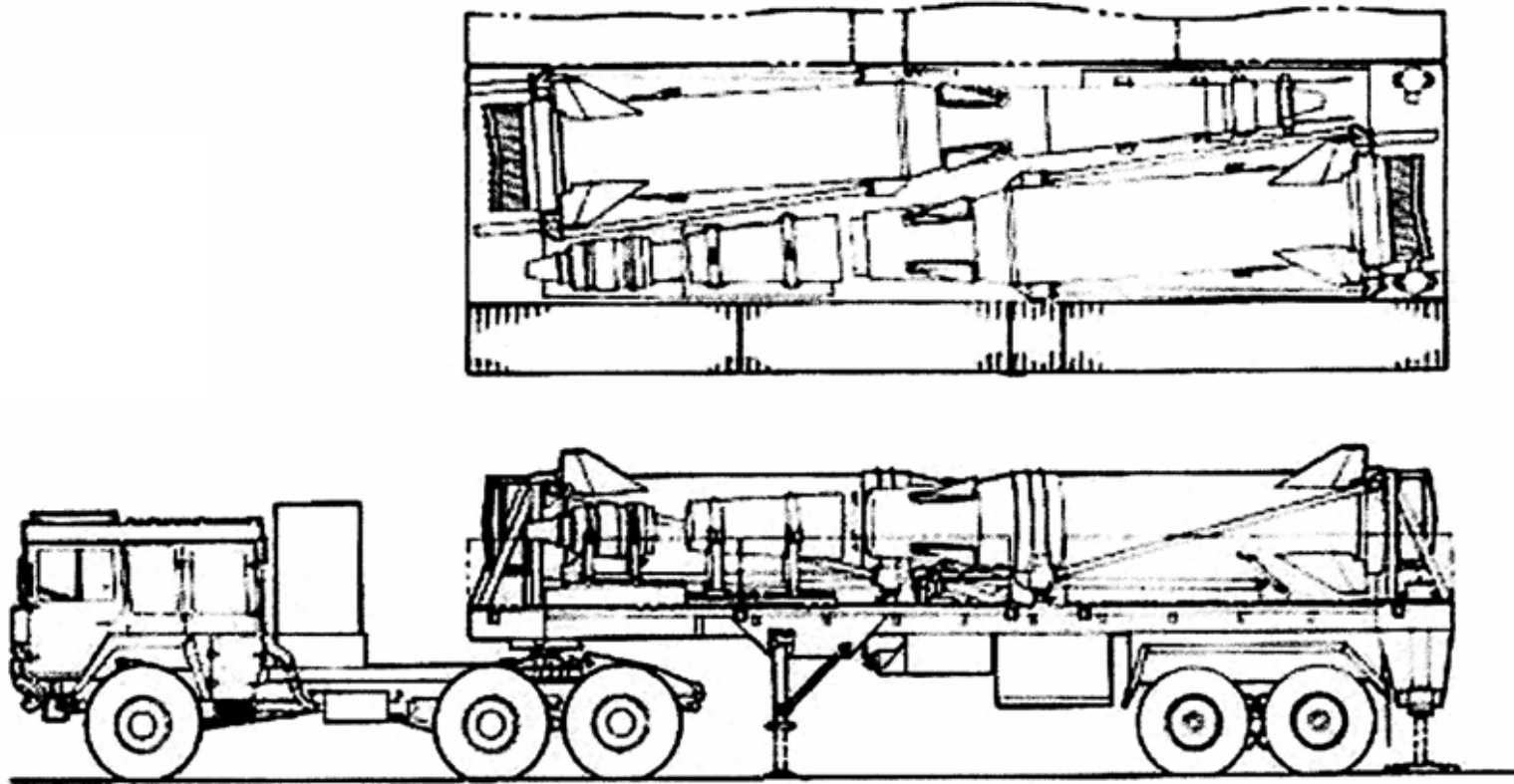


Figure 2. PII RR Tractor and Erector Launcher with Missiles

ORGANIZATION

A PII RR battalion will contain four firing batteries, with each battery composed of three firing platoons. A platoon will have three ELs for a total of six ready missiles per platoon. A firing platoon will consist of:

- Six PII RR missiles.
- Three Erector Launchers with tractors.
- Countdown power sources mounted on the three tractors.
- Three Remote Launch Control Units.
- One Platoon Control Central with power source.
- Three Forward Area Cable Sets.
- Recovery vehicle for assembly and disassembly of missile (10-ton M.A.N.)

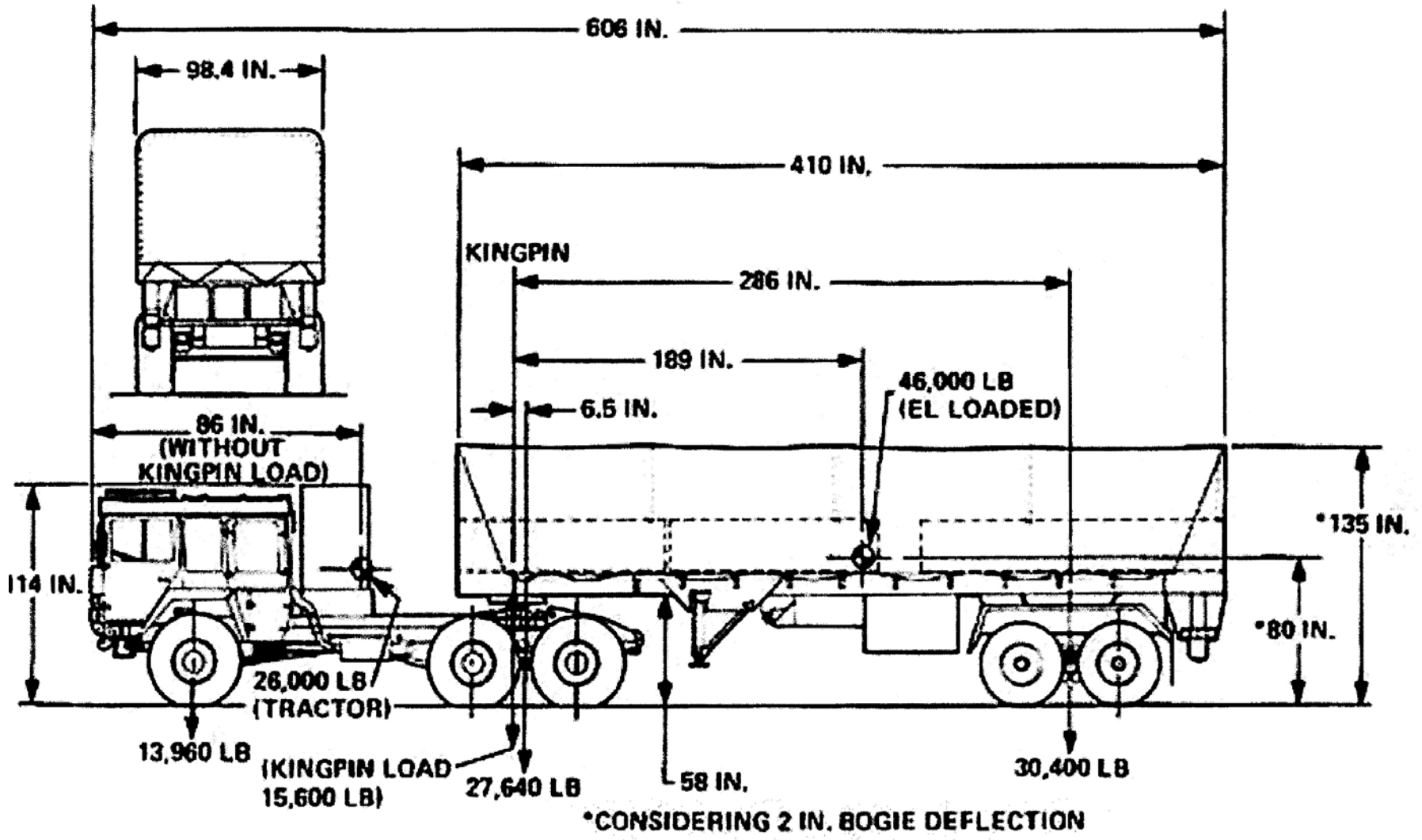


Figure 4. PII RR Dimensional and Axle Load Data