## **AXLE SHAFTS**

## To Remove

Remove nuts and spring washers securing the axle shaft flange to the studs in the wheel hub.

Withdraw the axle shaft.

Note: Two 7/16 in UNF tapped holes are provided in the axle shaft flange to effect the initial break. Suitable bolts equally and alternately screwed in until a lever can be applied behind the flange will facilitate removal,

## Inspection

Examine the axle shaft for distortion and damage or wear of the splines. Wear in the splines can be detected by checking for backlash using a new bevel wheel as a gauge. If damage or wear is found a new axle shaft must be fitted.

Examine hub flange studs for stretch and damaged threads, renewing as necessary.

## To Refit

Ensure the mating faces of the hub and axle shaft are clean and free from burrs.

Fit a new joint washer to the hub flange.

Insert the axle shaft into the casing ensuring engagement of the splines into the differential bevel wheel. With the hub studs located in the axle shaft flange holes, a few light hammer blows may be applied to the shaft flange to ensure the shaft is fully engaged.

Refit the nuts and spring washers, tightening alternately. Torque load all nuts to 60 Nm (46 lbf. ft).