5. On-reassembly, check that the correct rack height setting plate is fitted. Variations are available to suit both standard (130/130mm) and sport (100/110mm) ride heights. Fitment of the wrong plate will result in an incorrect bump steer characteristic and degraded handling. The plates are identified by notches in the vertical edges: Standard specification (130/130); 7 notches. Sport suspension (100/110); 10 notches. If necessary, drill out the head of the pop rivet retaining the plate, taking care not to damage or enlarge the chassis hole, and rivet the new plate into postion.

6. Feed the rack assembly into the chassis crossmember and engage the pinion shaft into the lower u/j with the match marks aligned. If a new assembly is being fitted, follow the 'Steering Wheel Alignment' procedure in sub-section HF.2.

7. New fixing bolts for the steering rack housing are precoated with thread locking compound. If existing bolts are to be re-used, wire brush the threads before re-applying a suitable thread locking compound and torque tightening the M8 bolts to 22.5 Nm, and the M10 bolts to 45 Nm.

8. Fit the lower u/j pinch bolt, and tighten to 35 Nm.

9. Fit the track rod ends into the steering arms, and tighten the nuts to 30 Nm.

10. Check and adjust the front wheel alignment as detailed in sub-section CH.2.

HF.7 - ADJUSTMENT OF RACK BAR THRUST PAD

A thrust pad backed by a pair of belleville washers, is used to control the preload between the rack bar teeth and the pinion gear, and is adjustable via a theaded backstop plug. The correct preload allows the horizontally mounted rack bar (column disconnected) to be pulled through its full travel by a steady force of 12 to 16 lbf. (50 - 70 N). The rack and pinion assembly must be removed from the chassis before any adjustment may be carried out.

To adjust the thrust pad, release the locknut (36mm socket) and use a 5.5mm hexagonal bit to adjust the backstop as required before tightening the locknut. For an approximate initial setting, screw in the backstop plug until solid, then back off ½ turn.