

Author: Nichols Karin/wo\_nifc@fs.fed.us at internet  
Date: 5/24/99 11:22 AM  
Priority: Normal  
TO: BOB FISHER at AVIATION MGMT  
TO: DAVE WARDALL at AVIATION MGMT  
TO: tolska@worldnet.att.net at INTERNET  
TO: nvairops@govmail.state.nv.us at INTERNET  
TO: parsond@doacs.state.fl.us at INTERNET  
TO: harry\_sumner@mail.enr.state.nc.us at INTERNET  
TO: dzimmerman/na@sv2wo.wo.fs.fed.us at INTERNET  
TO: pmarkowitz/wo\_nifc@sv2wo.wo.fs.fed.us at INTERNET  
TO: rodr@pobox.alaska.net at INTERNET  
TO: edmartin@state.mt.us at INTERNET  
TO: jdennis@gfc.state.ga.us at INTERNET  
Subject: UHUpdate

----- Message Contents -----

1 4 142105Z MAY 99 PP PP UUUU AA ZYUM

NO

FROM  
:CDRAMCOM REDSTONE ARSENAL AL//AMSAM-DSA-U//  
TO  
:AIG 8861  
:AIG 9004  
:AIG 7515  
:AIG 7471  
:AIG 12124  
:DCMC AFMO OZARK AL//DCMDE-NOA//  
:CDRAMCOM REDSTONE ARSENAL AL//AMSAM-RA-FO//  
:ASF42 81ST ARCOM DOBBINS AFB GA  
:DEPT OF STATE AIR WING PATRICK AFB FL  
:CDRCBDCOM ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND MD//AMSCB-OPA//  
:USAATC ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND MD//STEAC-CO-P//  
:RAYTHEON RANGE SYSTEMS ENGINEERING KWAJALEIN MH//PAT2//  
:STEWS ARMY AIR HOLLOWMAN AFB NM//STEWS-NRS-E//  
:CDRDPG DUGWAY UT//STEDP-AVM//  
:USDOCO LANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR TU//AV//  
:WALLOPS FLIGHT FACILITY NASA WALLOPS ISLAND VA  
: //CODE 831.2 AIRCRAFT QA//  
INFO  
:HQAFSPCCSS PETERSON AFB CO//LGM/SEF//  
:CDRMDW WASHINGTON DC//ANLG-LS//  
:SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP-DSAA//  
:SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//NEA/INL//  
:AFSOC HURLBURT FIELD FL//LGM//  
:HQ PACAFDPIC HICKAM AFB HI//DO/LGM//  
:HQAMC SCOTT AFB IL//LG/LGF/LGQ/DO/DOT/DOV/DOX/SEF//  
:89AW ANDREWS AFB MD//LG//  
:89OG ANDREWS AFB MD//CC/OGV//  
:1HS ANDREWS AFB MD//CC/DO//  
:NAVAVNDEPOT CHERRY PT NC//H1-ISST//  
:CDR FT BRAGG NC//AF2A-GT-CM//  
:CDR HQ 1ST COSCOM FT BRAGG NC//LOGOPS AVN SECT//  
:FAA AERONAUTICALCEN OKLAHOMA CITY OK//AFS-620//  
:DISC PHILADELPHIA PA//QEBB-JU//  
:CDR LSE AVIATION IZMIR TU//LSE//  
:HQ AETC RANDOLPH AFB TX//DO/DOFI/SEF//  
:FAA SOUTHWEST RGN HQ FORT WORTH TX//ASW-100//  
:CDRUSASMDC ARLINGTON VA//CSSD/ZA//  
:PMSW VHFS WARRENTON VA//SFAE-IW-SG//  
XMT

*UH-1 vert for  
UH-1-99-02  
delay in map criteria*

:  
ACCT

:  
TEXT

:UNCLAS

SUBJECT: PM UTILITY HELICOPTERS STATUS UPDATE ON GROUNDING OF UH-1  
AIRCRAFT DUE TO SUSPECTED CRACKS IN TAILBOOM VERTICAL FIN

REF: CDRAMCOM 071815Z MAY 99, SUBJECT: SAFETY OF FLIGHT MESSAGE,  
OPERATIONAL, RCS CSGLD-1860(R1), IMMEDIATE GROUNDING OF UH-1H/V  
SERIES AIRCRAFT (UH-1-99-02)

1. SOF MESSAGE UH-1-99-02 WAS ISSUED 7 MAY TO IMMEDIATELY GROUND  
THE UH-1 FLEET UNTIL INSPECTION PROCEDURES TO DETERMINE THE  
PRESENCE OF CRACKS IN THE TAIL BOOM VERTICAL FIN SPAR COULD BE  
DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED. THE GROUNDING MESSAGE INDICATED THAT  
A FOLLOW-ON SAFETY OF FLIGHT MESSAGE IMPLEMENTING THOSE  
INSPECTION PROCEDURES WOULD BE ISSUED WITHIN 7-10 DAYS. WE WILL  
NOT BE ABLE TO MEET THAT SCHEDULE.

2. THE PACING ITEM FOR COMPLETING THAT SOF MESSAGE IS THE  
INSPECTION PROCEDURE. OUR ORIGINAL STRATEGY WAS TO LEVERAGE  
EXISTING ALERT BULLETIN INSPECTION PROCEDURES TO THE MAXIMUM  
EXTENT POSSIBLE TO EXPEDITE RELEASE OF THE SOF MESSAGE ENABLING  
ARMY INSPECTIONS TO BEGIN. VALIDATION OF THOSE PROCEDURES  
REVEALED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE BULLETIN PROCEDURES AND OUR  
AIRCRAFT THAT ALTERED OUR STRATEGY AND DELAYED OUR MESSAGE  
RELEASE. AMCOM, BELL HELICOPTER, AND AVIATION CENTER  
REPRESENTATIVES ARE CONTINUING THEIR EVALUATION OF X-RAY, DYE  
PENETRANT, AND VISUAL INSPECTION TECHNIQUES. THE LOGISTICS AND  
EQUIPMENT ISSUES RELATED TO EACH OF THE TECHNIQUES IS ALSO BEING  
EXAMINED. ONCE THE INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS ARE BROUGHT TO  
CLOSURE AND VALIDATED, WE WILL COMPLETE AND RELEASE THE  
IMPLEMENTING SOF MESSAGE.

3. POINT OF CONTACT, WALLY NEWCOMB, APM UH-1, DSN 645-8769, CML  
(256) 955-8769, EMAIL "WALLY.NEWCOMB@UH.REDSTONE.ARMY.MIL".

:  
ACCT  
:  
TEXT  
:UNCLAS

SUBJECT: PM UTILITY HELICOPTERS STATUS UPDATE NUMBER 2 ON  
GROUNDING OF UH-1 AIRCRAFT DUE TO SUSPECTED CRACKS IN  
TAILBOOM VERTICAL FIN

NOTE  
THIS IS NOT A SAFETY OF FLIGHT OR AVIATION  
SAFETY ACTION MESSAGE

REFERENCE:

- A. AMSAM-DSA-U, 142105Z MAY 99, SAB
  - B. CDRAMCOM 071815Z MAY 99, SUBJECT: SAFETY OF FLIGHT  
MESSAGE, OPERATIONAL, RCS CSGLD-1860(R1), IMMEDIATE  
GROUNDING OF UH-1H/V SERIES AIRCRAFT (UH-1-99-02)
1. REF A PROVIDED PM UTILITY HELICOPTERS UPDATE ON PROGRESS  
TOWARD DEVELOPING INSPECTION PROCEDURES NECESSARY TO RETURN  
THE UH-1 FLEET TO FLIGHT STATUS.
  2. IT IS NOW APPARENT THAT THE FINAL INSPECTION PROCEDURES  
WILL INCLUDE RADIOGRAPHY (X-RAY) OF SELECTED PORTIONS OF THE  
VERTICAL FIN SPAR. THIS WILL LIKELY BE AN INITIAL AS WELL  
AS A RECURRING REQUIREMENT. OTHER TECHNIQUES (SUCH AS  
VISUAL) WILL BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RADIOGRAPHY.  
SPECIFIC PROCEDURES (SET-UP, EXPOSURE TIMES, FILM SPEEDS,  
ETC) ARE STILL BEING FINALIZED. PENDING ISSUE OF THE SOF  
MESSAGE IMPLEMENTING THE REQUIRED INSPECTION, RECOMMEND  
UNITS BEGIN PLANNING EFFORTS TO ASSURE THAT X-RAY INSPECTION  
CAPABILITY IS AVAILABLE AND READY FOR USE.
  3. SEVERAL THINGS SHOULD BE CHECKED. THE STANDARD  
RADIOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT WAS FIELDIED WITH THE NDI SUITE OF  
TEST EQUIPMENT TO AVIMS. EACH SITE FIELDIED SHOULD VERIFY  
THAT SOPS ARE AVAILABLE AND CURRENT, VERIFY STATUS OF SITE  
APPROVAL AND CHECK CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES. CHEMICALS FURNISHED  
DURING EQUIPMENT FIELDING ARE LIKELY TO BE OUT OF DATE AND  
SHOULD BE REPLACED. THE X-RAY FILM TO BE USED IS: KODAK,  
35MM X 200 FT, INDUSTRIAL X-RAY, M SPEED REDIPACK.  
APPROXIMATE COST IS \$150 PLUS SHIPPING. THE FILM SHOULD BE  
LOCAL PURCHASED. ONE KNOWN SOURCE IS NORTHSTAR IMAGING INC,  
POC IS NANCY BONNEMA, PHONE (651) 645-6684. ASK FOR CATALOG  
# 1459023. ADDITIONAL SOURCES WILL BE IDENTIFIED IN SOF  
MESSAGE.
  4. SPECIFIC QUESTIONS REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE X-RAY  
EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE AVIATION GROUND SUPPORT  
EQUIPMENT WSM. POC IS MR. WAYNE SUCHMAN, DSN 746-2228, CML  
(256) 876-2228. E-MAIL IS  
"WAYNE.SUCHMAN@REDSTONE.ARMY.MIL".
  5. POINT OF CONTACT, WALLY NEWCOMB, APM UH-1, DSN 645-8769,  
CML (256) 955-8769, EMAIL  
"WALLY.NEWCOMB@UH.REDSTONE.ARMY.MIL".