

Bell Helicopter **TEXTRON**

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OPERATIONS SAFETY NOTICE

APRIL 21, 1978

OSN 47-78-1

TO: ALL OPERATORS OF MODEL 47 HELICOPTERS
SUBJECT: AIRWORTHINESS OF AIRCRAFT PARTS

A NUMBER OF 47-620-497-1 GEAR SETS HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO BHT BECAUSE GOOD GEAR PATTERNS COULD NOT BE OBTAINED. INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT THEY WERE "BOGUS" PARTS PURCHASED IN PENNSYLVANIA FROM AN UNAPPROVED DISTRIBUTOR. SUBSEQUENT EVALUATION OF THE GEARS BY BHT REVEALED THAT THEY WERE IMPROPERLY HEAT TREATED AND VERY SUSCEPTIBLE TO CRACKING AND WEAR IN THE BEARING JOURNAL AREA. THESE PARTS AND OTHERS OF THE MODEL 47 TRANSMISSION HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS "BOGUS" PARTS - THAT IS, PARTS NOT MANUFACTURED BY BHT OR OUR APPROVED MANUFACTURERS.

OPERATORS OF MODEL 47 HELICOPTERS ARE ADVISED TO ASSURE THE AIRWORTHINESS OF PARTS USED ON THEIR EQUIPMENT BY PURCHASING THEIR PARTS FROM BHT OR FROM AN APPROVED BHT CUSTOMER SERVICE FACILITY.

AN INCREASING NUMBER OF "BOGUS" PARTS ARE SHOWING UP DURING ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS.