

Bell Helicopter **TEXTRON**

Bell Helicopter Textron Inc.
A Subsidiary of Textron Inc.

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OPERATIONS SAFETY NOTICE

19 October 1979

OSN 47-79-1

TO: ALL MODEL 47G2A, G3, G3-B, G3-B1, G3-B2, G3-B2A, G4,
G4A, G5, G5-A, J2 AND J2-A HELICOPTER OWNERS/
OPERATORS

SUBJECT: TAIL ROTOR LINK ASSEMBLIES, P/N 47-641-172-5 WHICH IS
PART OF THE NEW 206 TYPE TAIL ROTOR ASSEMBLY, P/N
47-641-170

BELL HELICOPTER TEXTRON HAS BECOME AWARE OF INCIDENTS WHERE THE TAIL ROTOR LINK ROD END BEARING WORE SUFFICIENTLY TO ALLOW THE ROD END HOUSING TO SHIFT ON TO THE TAIL ROTOR BLADE PITCH HORN STUD BOSS, RESTRICTING THE FLAPPING ACTION. THIS CAUSED EXCESSIVE REVERSE BENDING LOADS IN THE LINK, WHICH EVENTUALLY FAILED.

FAILURE OF THESE LINKS IS ATTRIBUTED TO NON-COMPLIANCE WITH INSPECTIONS SET FORTH IN THE DAILY INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS. MAINTENANCE AND OVERHAUL MANUALS UNDER THE HEADING, "TAIL ROTOR DRIVE AND CONTROL SYSTEM," REQUIRE REPLACEMENT OF THE ROD ENDS IF THE AXIAL OR RADIAL PLAY EXCEEDS 0.015 INCH.

OPERATORS' MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL SHOULD BE ALERTED TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE MENTIONED MAINTENANCE AND OVERHAUL REQUIREMENTS.

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A SAFETY WASHER, P/N 47-642-195-101, HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO PREVENT THE ROD END HOUSING FROM SHIFTING ON TO THE PITCH HORN STUD BOSS. A TECHNICAL BULLETIN WILL BE RELEASED WHEN PARTS BECOME AVAILABLE.