

TO SHIM—OR NOT TO SHIM

Dear Windy,

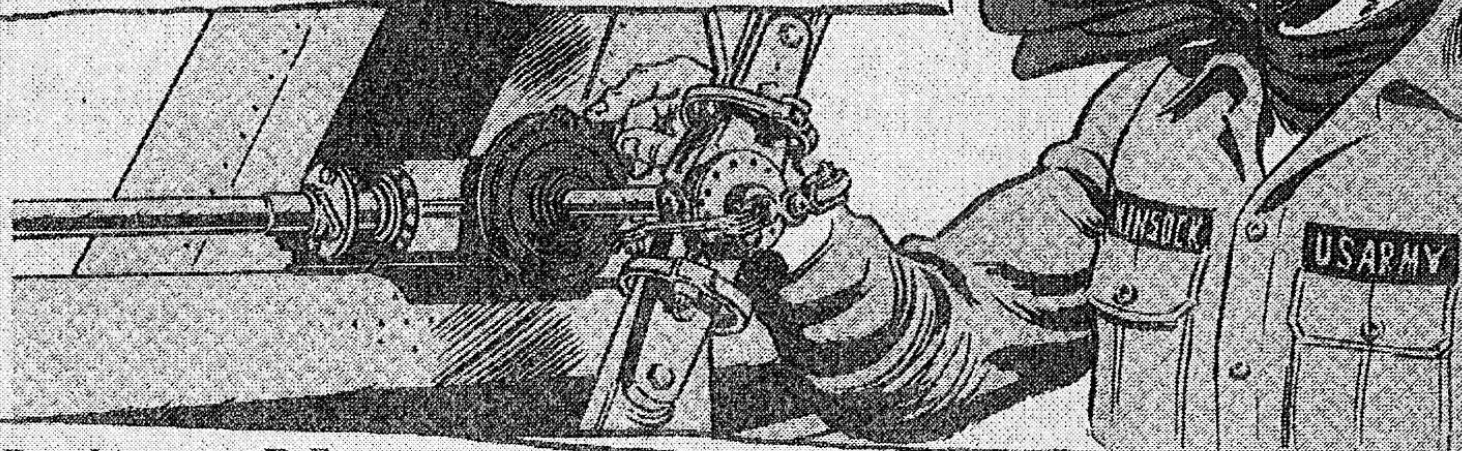
Para 8-15f(3)(c) of TM 55-1520-228-20 (Oct 72) seems to raise a question about putting shims in the tail rotor on our Kiowa.

We're supposed to adjust the thickness of shim, item 14, fig 8-1, to get 12 degrees plus or minus 1 degree and 1.5-in tolerance during installation.

Some of our new Kiowas have no shims at all. Should shims be installed, no matter how thin, Windy?

LT D. R.

SHIM
MAY BE
NEEDED



Dear Lieutenant D. R.,

Nosir-e-e-el

'Course, the purpose of the shim is to allow adjustment of the clearance between the tail rotor trailing edge and the tailboom. By adding or subtracting shims, the position of the static stop is changed. This affects the degree of blade flapping.

In some cases, due to tolerance build up, a shim will not be needed to get the 12 degree plus or minus 1 degree and 1.5-in clearance.

Windy