

\$AVE the SHAFT!

GATHER 'ROUND, TROOPS...

HERE'S A NEAT SUGGESTION FOR A LOCALLY MADE TOOL THAT CAN SAVE YOUR TAIL ROTOR DRIVE SHAFT!

GREAT!... JUST WHAT WE NEED!

BUT, CONNIE--TH' PROBLEM IS CAUSED BY DAMAGED COLLARS...

YEAH... BUT THIS TOOL WILL PREVENT THAT!

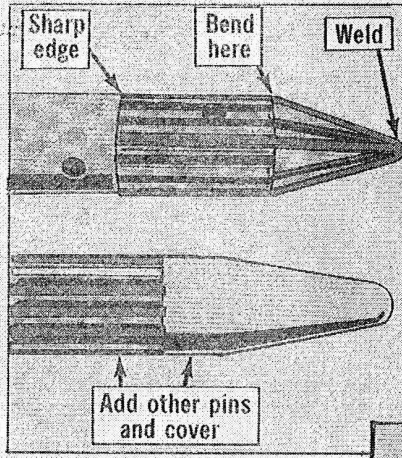
Dear Editor,

Installing the bearing collars on the OH-58A/C tail rotor drive shaft can pose a bit of a problem. The OD of the shaft is larger than the ID of the collar.

Even when using surgical jelly as an installation aid, tho, the inside of the rubber collar often gets cut on the sharp edge of the shaft at the splines. Dirt then settles in the damaged collar. If the collar should rotate, instead of remaining stationary, the shaft is scratched beyond limits.

Well—we made up a dandy little work aid to save the collars and the shaft.

We used 15 3/32-in cotter pins.



You open up all the pins. Then, using the shaft splines as a template, space and shape 5 pins with a pair of pliers and weld them to a point. This gives you the basic form to which you add the other 10 pins of shorter lengths.

We covered the pointed end of the tool with acrylic dental resin, NSN 6520-00-889-9566, which we got from the medics. You can also use epoxy.

In use, the tool raises the collar over the sharp edge of the shaft...no cuts, no rips, no tears.

SGT Arlen Montgomery
Ft. Eustis, VA

(Ed Note—Good show!)