



When you Kiowa (OH-58A) pilots make your exterior check before cranking up the bird, focus in on the main rotor—for real.

Para 3-11 of TM 55-1520-228-10 (Sep 72) says to rotate the blade 90 degrees. You have to hand-rotate the blade backwards to make sure the N2 is free before starting, for good reason.

The N2 can hang up following engine shutdown.

Which is the reason why you abort a start if the main rotor is not moving by 30 per cent gas producer speed N1.

If you continue the start past 30 per cent, the N2 will suddenly let go. The impact torque could damage the engine or power train.

A binding N2 can cause all sorts of grief for maintenance types. So-o-o-o, rotate the blade before every start, hot pilots.

