

Sometime in your career as a knuckle-buster it may seem logical for you to leave a part off a bird to get rid of an interference problem. But that's not quite what the engineers had in mind.

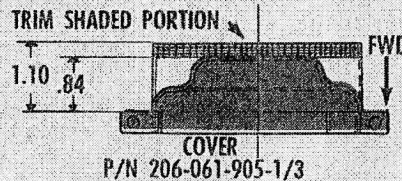
Take the drive shaft cover on the Kiowa (OH-58A). Sure, you only have about $\frac{1}{8}$ -in clearance between the cover and shaft. And a dent in the cover could chafe the shaft, meaning big trouble.

Never remove the cover permanently, tho, because it's part of the firewall. The airflow around the shaft is restricted by the cover. This prevents flames from spreading from the engine compartment to the transmission area in the event of a fire.

'Tain't healthy to fly your bird without a complete firewall!

So, if the 2-piece cover is damaged and is too close to the shaft ask for a new one.

When you've made all the positioning adjustments possible and the cover still doesn't give you enough clearance try this for size:



Trim off no more than 0.26 inch of material from the cover lip.

