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RDT&E PROJECT NO. 1F141807D174 USATECOM PROJECT NO. 4-6-0300-0 USAAVNTA PROJECT NO. 65-30



FINAL REPORT MAY 1966

John C. Kidwell Project Engineer

U.S. ARMY

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JOHN K. FOSTER MAJOR, US. ARMY TC PROJECT PILOT

U. S. ARMY AVIATION TEST ACTIVITY Edwards Air Force Base, California

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RDT&E PROJECT NO. 1F141807D174 USATECOM PROJECT NO. 4-6-0300-01 USAAVNTA PROJECT NO. 65-30

ENGINEERING FLIGHT EVALUATION OF THE BELL MODEL 209 Armed Helicopter

FINAL REPORT

MAY 1966

JOHN C. KIDWELL PROJECT ENGINEER

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JOHN K. FOSTER MAJOR, U.S.ARMY TC PROJECT PILOT

U. S. ARMY AVIATION TEST ACTIVITY EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

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ABSTRACT

This report presents the results of an engineering flight evaluation conducted to determine the technical engineering flight characteristics of the nrc otype Model 209, S/N N209J, HueyCobra weapons helicopter. This evaluation was conducted by the U.S. Army Aviation Test Activity (USAAVNTA), Edwards Air Force Base, California. Tests were conducted at Edwards Air Force Base, California. Twenty-nine flights were made for a total of 32 hours flying time during the period 13 November through 1 December 1965. The USAAVNTA was assigned responsibility for preparing the test plan, executing the test and preparing the test report.

Although the performance and flight characteristics did not conform with the values predicted by the contractor's technical reports, the results of these tests show that the Cobra design offered speed, maneuverability, good fields of vision from the cockpit, and other desirable armed aircraft characteristics not presently available from any helicopter in the U. S. Army inventory. The maximum (power limited) level flight airspeed at sea level with no external stores and the landing gear retracted was 162 knots true airspeed. Acceptable vibration levels and flight characteristics for a weapons platform were present during all test conditions which included the limit dive speed of 190 knots calibrated airspeed (KCAS).

The major problem areas

included less-than-optimum high speed handling qualities, high noise levels in the aft cockpit, a front seat "sidearm" cyclic that was unsatisfactory because of the force arrangement, marginal cockpit ventilation and a cyclic force trim that was unsatisfactory because lateral forces could not be trimmed to zero.

The limited contractor development program which preceded this evaluation resulted in limitations that did not allow evaluation of the design during weapons firing, touchdown autorotations, autorotation entries at speeds above 150 KCAS and flight at extreme center-ofgravity locations.

Additionally, the contractor's full structural demonstration was not complete. Development work remained to be accomplished in the areas of fatigue test and flight loads.

Generally, performance levels were somewhat less than the contractor's predicted values. Low speed performance, i.e., hover and climb flight, was similar to that of the UH-1 B/540 helicopters. High speed performance was, of course, considerably improved.

The tests showed that Automatic Stabilization Equipment (ASE) was required to provide adequate lateraldirectional damping for a weapons platform at speeds above 120 KCAS. Safe flight was possible, however, in the event of ASE failure at high speed.

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PART I General

A. REFERENCES

A list of references will be found in Part III, Annex A.

B. PURPOSE OF TEST

The purpose of this test was to quantitatively determine the flight and performance characteristics of the Bell Model 209 "Cobra" helicopter. In addition, maneuvers were performed to allow the comparison of agility characteristics with two other designs.

C. DESCRIPTION OF MATERIEL

1. Airframe

The test item airframe (S/N N209J) provided by the contractor was one of a kind and was specially configured for weapons carrying. The configuration featured a very narrow fuselage with small tapered wings (with two external store stations per wing) and an integral chin turret; accommodation was provided for a crew of two, pilot and gunner, with a tandem seating arrangement. The gunner accupied the forward station. During this evaluation, one station, the outboard, on each wing was utilized to carry a 19-round 2.75-inch FFAR rocket pod (LAU 3A/A).

Normal flight controls, similar to those in the UH-1 helicopter, were installed at the pilot's station. In the gunner's compartment, sidearm collective and cyclic controls allowed the central area of the cockpit to be used for the installation of weapons sighting systems. A retractable skid gear was fitted to the test article. During this evaluation, the primary configuration tested was with the gear down and with fairings installed. Sufficient data was collected to determine the characteristics of the clean configuration with the gear up and with no external stores.

Two primary mission gross weights were used for the majority of this evaluation. Both included two unfaired 19round rocket pods with the landing gear fixed down and faired. The light mission gross weight was 8100 pounds and the heavy mission gross weight was 8800 pounds.

At the time of this evaluation, the airframe was in a comparatively early stage of contractor test and development. A set of suggested flight limits that were the result of 68 hours of flight prior to these tests was provided (See Part III, Annex D).

2. Engine-Rotor System

The engine that was installed in the airframe for this evaluation was a prototype YT53-L-13, Serial Number 3. The engine did not conform to the T53-L-13 production configuration but did have similar power available characteristics.

The rotor system and dynamic components were similar to those procured with the FY 1966 UH-1B helicopters. The Model 540 main rotor system was 44 feet in diameter with 27 inch

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chord blades. The flight control system was considerably different from that of a standard UH-1B. No stabilizer bar was fitted and provisions were incorporated for electronic automatic stabilization equipment (ASE) for all three aircraft axes. Only the lateral and yaw channels were used during this evaluation because the longitudinal channel was not sufficiently developed for evaluation. None of the channels had been optimized for gain settings or other characteristics. The method of introducing cyclic inputs to the swash plate was different than in the standard UH-1B and was accomplished without mixing the longitudinal and lateral control commands.

D. BACKGROUND

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The Department of the Army directed the U. S. Army Materiel Command (USAMC) to conduct an expedited flight test evaluation of a selected group of three helicopters to fulfill the immediate requirement for an armed helicopter. In October 1965, USAMC assigned this program to the U. S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (USATECOM) for testing by the U. S. Army Aviation Test Activity (USAAVNTA), under the technical direction of a USAMC appointed representative who had full responsibility for the conduct of the flight test program (References 9 and 10). The Plan of Test of the Armed Helicopters (Reference 11) was submitted by USAAVNTA 28 October 1965 and approved 8 November 1965. The test program was conducted at Edwards Air Force Base, California, from 13 November to 1 December 1965. An interim summary report of the combined armed helicopters test results (Reference 12) was submitted by USAAVNTA on 6 December 1965 to the Chairman,

Improved Armed Helicopter Evaluation Group, Hq, USAMC. The contractor's UH-1 "Cobra" design, which had been developed under a company initiated program, was one of the three designs tested. This report presents the final results of the engineering flight evaluation of the Model 209, "Cobra" armed helicopter.

E. FINDINGS

1. General

The findings of this report can, to some degree, be related to the capability of the FY 1966 UH-1B helicopters equipped with the Model 540 rotor system. Comparison is valid, principally in the area of low speed performance, because the dynamic components are very similar. The Cobra, however, represents a considerable extension in speed capability using these components.

During this evaluation, several tests were conducted to investigate agility. Most of these tests were original efforts to provide the measurement of this characteristic. For this reason, both the test techniques and analysis methods were developed during the testing. Reflection on the results has indicated that modification of the techniques would have produced more meaningful results. The data presented, however, reasonably represents the characteristics of the helicopter during the maneuvers that were performed.

2. Cockpit

a. <u>Pilot's Station</u> - The pilot's cockpit was relatively easy to enter and exit using the handholds and steps that were provided on the right hand side of the aircraft. The steps, however, were configured to retract and extend with the landing gear. If the air-

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craft were to be procured with a fixed gear, redesign of the step arrangement would be necessary.

The armored seat was adjustable up and down only. The seat adjustment for an average size pilot was satisfactory but it was doubtful that a large pilot would fit into the seat without having his head touch the top of the cabin. The seat was comfortable and would enhance the mission capability from a pilot fatigue standpoint. With the side panels of the armored seat raised, however, the seat was unsatisfactory because the pilot's cyclic control movements were restricted. This would increase pilot fatigue and limit

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maneuverability. Rudder pedals were adjustable fore and aft and the adjustment appeared to be adequate. Cyclic control position was not adjustable. For an average size pilot, the seat and control adjustments were satisfactory.

The canopy hold open and locking mechanism was less than optimum and a secondary positive lock had been provided. Canopy jettison capability was provided.

With the seat adjusted to the upper limit, the view of the warning lights along the top of the instrument panel was blocked by the instrument panel glare shield.

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The caution panel was mounted on the right side quarter panel. This made it difficult to identify the caution lights with direct sunlight shining on the panel. The caution panel should be relocated.

The rest of the instrument panel presentation was adequate but should be optimized by a cockpit mock-up board if a configuration is finalized and procured.

Both cockpits were equipped with a tool for breaking plexiglass in case of a crash which would jam the canopy mechanism or if the helicopter rolled onto its side, block either the pilot's or copilot's exit.

A ventilation system was provided by a flush air inlet on the right side of the helicopter and ram air was boosted by an electrically driven blower. The pilot had an adjustable outlet on his instrument panel and deck outlets on each side of the cockpit. Air was exhausted out of the cockpit area into the compartment just aft of the pilot. This flight evaluation was conducted during the month of November at Edwards Air Force Base, California. Ambient temperatures were cool and the ventilation was satisfactory. Under summer conditions of higher ambient temperatures, however, it was doubtful that the present ventilation system would be adequate. The ventilation inlet was in close proximity to the rocket pods. During rocket firing, it is probable that gases from the rocket motors would be carried into the cockpit through the ventilation system. Defogging was rapid and adequate as configured. The heating system was not installed during the evaluation and could not be evaluated.

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The majority of the avionics panels were located on the right hand console. This was unsatisfactory because avionics selection and tuning required the pilot to fly left handed while tuning radios. The pilot also had to turn his head to the right to locate the avionics. This distracted his attention from the instrument panel and flight path.

Due to the large glass area, the field of view from the pilot's cockpit was very good. The overhead structural members did not detract from the good field of view.

The noise level at the pilot's station was higher than that experienced at the gunner's station. Even with a form fitted helmet, there was a ringing sensation in the ears after a flight. A form fitted helmet and the use of issue ear plugs provided adequate ear protection. Using an issue helmet without additional ear protection, noise levels were unsatisfactory. The ventilation blower increased the noise level in the cockpit.

The circuit breaker panel as configured was unsatisfactory. The panel was located on the right side console at the rearmost position which was difficult or impossible to see or reach in flight. The circuit breakers should be relocated to allow easy access.

Every effort should be made to reconfigure the pilot's cockpit so that all frequently used functional switches and avionics can be manipulated with the left hand while in flight.

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b. Copilot-Gunner's

Station

Entry and exit from the gunner's station were satisfactory using the retracting steps and hatch on the left side of the fuselage once the proper technique was learned. No gunsight was installed; however, this may have had a direct bearing on the ease of entry and exit. The retracting steps should be redesigned if the aircraft is considered for procurement with fixed landing gear.

The armored seat was not adjustable in the gunner's cockpit. There was minimum head clearance for an average size individual. The front seat should be adjustable for head clearance. As configured the seat was comfortable but with the side panels raised movements of the gunner, while controlling the gunsight, will be restricted and may limit the useful travel. The copilot-gunner's seat should be designed to allow maximum unrestricted use of the sight.

The copilot-gunner's cyclic and collective controls were sidearm controls and were designed as emergency controls in case the pilot were wounded. Cyclic control travel was about one-half that of the pilot's and required twice the force to obtain the same control travel. Rudder pedals were conventional and adjustable fore and aft. The pedal travel and forces were the same as the pilot's controls. Rudder pedals at the copilot's station were satisfactory.

Comments on the canopy and ventilation system at the gunner's station are the same as those previously stated for the pilot's station. The copilot-gunner's instrument panel had special instrumentation and was not representative. The copilotgunner should be provided the basic engine and flight instruments and a means of communication in case of emergency.

The field of view from the copilot-gunner's station was excellent.

The noise level at the gunner's station was measured at 118 decibels and was considered satisfactory. A form fitted helmet provided adequate noise protection.

There were no circuit breakers located at the gunner's station. The gunner should be provided with some circuit breakers to increase his ability to handle certain emergencies without assistance from the rear cockpit. For instance, if the ASE circuit breakers were in the front cockpit, the ASE could be turnedoff without assistance from the rear seat. Those that are required could be determined from a mock-up board on the final configuration.

3. Starting and Rotor Engagement

The starting procedure was simple and basically the same as that of the UH-1 except for the relocation of switches in the cockpit.

4. Hovering

a. The handling qualities during hovering flight were similar to those of a

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standard UH-1B except for an increased rudder pedal sensitivity. The sensitivity was not objectionable and, once the pilot became accustomed to it, there was no tendency to overcontrol.

b. During the evaluation. the occurrence of favorable weather conditions made it possible to conduct some impromptu out-of-ground effect (OGE) hovering tests. While the data (See Figure No. 1, Part II) was not sufficient to establish the exact performance characteristics of the Cobra, it was sufficient to indicate that the hovering powerrequired characteristics were similar to those of the standard UH-1B/540 helicopter. Based on the power available as defined by Specification No. 104.33 (Reference 8), the hovering performance shown in Figure A should result.

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Figure A shows that the hot day (+35 degree Centigrade (C)) OGE hovering performance was less thanthat predicted in Report No. 209-099-012 titled "Model 209 Technical Data Report," (Reference 7) Table II-2.

Additionally, the value offered by the contractor for a hot day OGE hovering guarantee in the proposed Model Specification (Report No. 209-947-010, Reference 4) was approximately 2000 feet lower than the value that was predicted in the Technical Data Report No. 209-099-012.

No hovering autorotation or sideward and rearward flight tests were conducted during this evaluation. These characteristics remain to be demonstrated and should be investigated if additional government tests are performed on the Cobra.



5. Takeoff

Determination of the takeoff performance characteristics was not an objective of these tests. The handling qualities were qualitatively evaluated. The air taxi handling qualities were satisfactory and the helicopter could be accelerated through translational lift without collective manipulation and with little tendency to "sink through." The transition to forward flight from a hover produced the normal cyclic and rudder pedal trim changes. No adverse characteristics were noted.

6. Climbing Flight

a. Climb performance was briefly evaluated at altitudes from the surface to 12,000 feet. The climb schedule airspeed of 70 knots indicated airspeed (KIAS) was selected in the absence of a contractorrecommended climb schedule. Based on the level flight data, there was probably a performance penalty at the higher altitudes (i.e., above 7500 feet); but the data was adequate to indicate the magnitude of available climb performance.

The increased power available from the T53-L-13 engine accounted for most of the improvement in climb performance over that of the standard UH-1B/540 helicopters. Because of the engine difference, no direct comparison was valid. Generally, at a climb start gross weight of 8100 pounds, the Cobra demonstrated rates of climb of approximately 2200 feet per minute (FPM) up to the engine critical altitude of 10,000 feet. This level of performance was in reasonable agreement with the

predictions of Bell Report No.209-099 -012 (Reference 7). Service ceiling determination was not within the scope of the test objectives.

b. The handling qualities of the Cobra during climbing flight were satisfactory at the selected climb speed of 70 KIAS. Strong static longitudinal stability was present (Reference Paragraph E.15) and, once established, the climb airspeed was easy to maintain. No adverse trim changes with altitude were noted.

7. Level Flight

a. The level flight stability and control characteristics are discussed in depth later in this report. Only the performance comments, however, are presented here.

b. The results of the level flight tests revealed that the power required in level flight was more than was predicted by previously furnished contractor data. Tests were performed over a range of density altitudes from 2640 feet to 10,330 feet. The gross weight range was limited from 7460 pounds to 8760 pounds. All data was taken with a centerof-gravity (C.G.) location near station 193, which corresponded to a position 7 inches forward of the rotor mast centerline. There were four configurations tested. These are listed in Table I.

Table I	- Level Flight Tes	st Configurations
Configuration No.	Landing Gear	Rocket Pods
1 .	Down & Faired	19-round (LAU 3A/A) rocket pod, no fairings
2	Down & Faired	19-round - nose and tail fairings
3	Up	19-round - nose and tail fairings
4	Up	No pods installed

The effect of the fuselage configuration on level flight performance was significant. The fuselage design was quite clean, aerodynamically, for a helicopter. In the optimum drag configuration, which was gear up and no rocket pods, the calculated sea level maximum speed at 8100 pounds, using the maximum allowable power (1100 shaft horsepower (SHP)), was 162 knots true airspeed (KTAS). This was approximately 10 knots less than predicted by Bell Report No. 209-099-012 (Reference 7). The maximum level flight true airspeed at 8100 pounds occurred at approximately 3500 feet. The relationship of the power limited speed ($V_{\rm H}$) and the structural limited ($V_{\rm L}$) boundaries is shown in Figure B.



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Additionally, the effect of the external stores on level flight maximum speeds is apparent from Figure B. Figure 6, Part II presents the effect of the various configuration changes in terms of equivalent flat plate drag area.

Figure C indicates the relationship between the results

of this evaluation and previously furnished contractor data. A progressive decrease in the verified maximum level flight speed with calendar time is apparent. Most of the differences were attributed to the contractor's airspeed position error calibration which is discussed in Paragraph E.20.



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The performance

characteristics at speeds greater than $V_{\rm H}$ were investigated and the relationship of speed and rates of descent during high speed flight is shown in Figure D.

light weights (sea level standard day) to 128 KTAS for the heavy weight "dirty" configuration with two unfaired 19-round rocket pods. The best cruise speeds for a production helicopter of this type



Figure D indicates the requirement to maintain a good aerodynamic configuration if high dive speeds are to be accompanied by acceptable rates of descent.

Optimum cruise speeds to obtain best range with the prototype test article varied between just over 140 knots KTAS for the clean configuration at

10

would depend on the power and fuel flow characteristics of the production T53-L-13 engine. These characteristics are not presently available.

The approximate mission capability was calculated for three sample missions. The accuracy of these calculated missions was limited by the lack

of definition of the exact engine characteristics. These missions should be a fair approximation of what could be expected of the design with the gear fixed down and with two 19-round LAU 3A/A unfaired rocket pods. a. 242.6 gallons (1576 pounds) usable fuel.

b. T53-L-13 Specification fuel flows 5 percent conservative (Reference 8, Lycoming Specification No. 104.33, 30 September 1964).

Approximate Mission

Capability

Approximate combat radius, endurance and range capability at sea level. Based on: c. 8100 pounds average mission weight.

d. Gear down - Two 19-round rocket pods, no nose cones.

Table II - Combat Radius at Sea Level

Condition	Time	Fuel Used 1b	Nautical Air Miles Traveled
Warm-up (2 min NRP)	.033	24	0
1 min T/O Power	.0163	13	0
Cruise Outbound (Max Cont Torque) 153 kt	.900	658	138
5 min Combat	.0833	65	0
Cruise Inbound (Max Cont Torque) 153 kt	.900	658	138
10% Fuel Reserve	0	158	0
TOTALS	1.93 hr	1576 lb	276 total
	$\Gamma_{n}^{(k)} \overset{(k)}{\underset{\alpha}{\overset{(k)}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}$		138 radius

Condition	Table II	II - Endurance Time	at Sea Level Fuel Used 1b	Nautical Air Miles Traveled
Warm-up (2 min	NRP)	.033	24	0
1 min T/O Powe	r	.0163	13	0
Cruise at Best (65 kt)	Loiter Spe	ed 3.29	1381	214
10% Reserve		0	158	0
	TOTALS	3.34 hr	1576 1b	214 miles

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Tal	ole IV - Range	at Sea Level	
Condition	Time hr	Fuel Used Na 1b	utical Air Miles Traveled
Warm-up (2 min NRP)	.033	24	0
1 min T/O Power	.0163	13	0
Cruise 0.99 max NAMPP, 133 kt, 575 1b/hr fuel flow	2.40	1381	1993-94 320
10% Reserve	0	158	0
TOTALS	2.45 hr	1576 lb	320 miles

8. Acceleration and Deceleration Capability

a. Tests were conducted to determine the acceleration and deceleration capability of the helicopter. These were performed over a surveyed course before a Fairchild Flight Analyzer which allowed the determination of true speeds without error being introduced by airspeed system lags. b. The test data analysis and standardization were attempted using energy methods. The test data had considerable scatter. Application of the data analysis techniques did not appreciably improve the quality of the presentation.

For this reason, the "best fairings" of the test data are presented in Figure E as representative of the most useful information available.



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c. The deceleration capability of the helicopter was established by the rotor upper limit RPM (339). Once the level deceleration maneuver was commenced, the rate of cyclic flare was limited to that which resulted in a rotor RPM of 339.

9. Tear Drop Turn Capability

a. Tests were performed to establish the characteristics of the helicopter during the "return to target" or "tear drop turn" maneuver. The tests were performed by making a turn, either right or left, which minimized the time from passage over a target to return to the target. Altitude was held constant. The controls and power were varied as necessary. The tests were performed at three different maneuver entry speeds; 100 KIAS, 120 KIAS and $V_{\rm H}$. b. The results of these tests agreed reasonably with previously furnished contractor data. Tear drop turns are highly transient maneuvers and no attempt at performance standardization would be valid. The maneuver is a combination of performance, stability and control, dynamics and pilot proficiency. The timing of the maneuver is also important. A ground track similar to Track "A" below tended to minimize the time required to perform the



maneuver at the lower speeds. At higher speeds, Track "B", which includes a slight delay after passing the target, before initiating a turn, tended to minimize times. The compromise track for the high speed flight path reduced at higher

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speeds and thus reduced the time spent in turning flight. Minimizing the time spent in turning flight produced higher average speeds by reducing the time spent under conditions of high induced drag which caused high deceleration rates even with full power.

Figure F presents a "best fairing" of representative test data.



Table V presents some of the data collected with additional parameters of interest.

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TABLE V TEAR DROP TURNING PERFORMANCE BELL MODEL 209

Entry V kt cal	Airspeed Back Across Target kt	Time From Target to Return sec	Maximum g	Maximum Roll Rate deg/sec	Test Weight 1b
117	52	14.76	2.10	26.0 Left	8100
117	56	15.09	2.18	30.0 Left	8100
116	84	14.87	2.42	36.5 Left	8100
121	71	15.03	2.36	34.0 Left	8100
101	53	13.77	2.00	28.0 Right	8100
104	57	13.28	2.10	40.0 Left	8100
116	79	15.40	2.25	43.0 Left	8100
111	82	14.08	2.20	33.0 Right	8100
119	85	15.60	2.25	41.5 Left	8100
140	96	17.96	2.25	40.5 Left	8100
140	95	16.73	2.25	31.5 Right	8100
139	89	16.78	2.23	43.0 Left	8100
119	77	15.09	2.10	40.0 Left	8800
119	77	15.40	2,20	34.5 Left	8800

10. Turn Reversal Capability

a. Turn reversals were performed as part of the effort to meet the agility test objectives.

ANTER DA

The maneuver was performed at constant altitude with a ground track similar to that shown below:



A 90-degree heading change was made as rapidly as possible and was followed by a second maximum effort 90-degree turn to return to the original heading. When performed to the limit of the helicopter's capability, these turns were more of a test of the structural integrity than an agility definition.

b. The data from this

maneuver could not standardize with the available engineering analysis techniques. Most of the qualitative comments were expressions of amazement that something did not separate from the aircraft. Figure G presents a "best fairing" of representative test data. It is indicative of the maximum practical capability of the helicopter while performing the maneuver.



11. Stabilized Turning Flight

a. Stabilized level turning flight performance data was taken to establish the steady-state maneuvering characteristics. Tests were performed using two techniques. For one technique, indicated airspeed was held constant and power was increased for each incremental increase in

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stabilized bank angle. Another technique used was to hold constant power and allow indicated airspeed to decrease with each incremental increase in bank angle. Of the two techniques, the second seemed to be slightly the easier for data collecttion and analysis. Maintaining constant power in turning flight, however, required adjustment of collective position because of thorough analysis of the turning performance data although the work which was accomplished indicated analysis was feasible. The test data "best fairing" is presented in Figure H. The bank angles were limited by the capability of the rotor to develop sufficient thrust to maintain a stabilized constant altitude turn. At bank angles quite near the maximum attainable, the vibration



changing rotor inflow with bank angle and turn rate.

b. The reporting suspense date requirements precluded a

levels and airframe roughness became (Djectionable and practical maneuvering capability in stabilized turning flight would probably be slightly less than the values of Figure H.

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12. Autorotational Entries

a. Autorotational entries were performed at speeds up to the limit that had been demonstrated by the contractor, 150 knots calibrated airspeed (KCAS). The higher speed autorotational entry characteristics had not been investigated during the limited development program.

b. With the exception of the technique change required to control rotor RPM, autorotational entries were characterized as generally mild maneuvers and no unacceptable rates or attitudes were encountered. Table VI is representative of the results obtained during the autorotational entry tests. At power settings in excess of those required for level flight at $.9V_{\rm H}$ (approximately 130 KIAS), rotor decay rates following throttle chop were high. The minimum rotor speed observed after a 1 second delay was 283 RPM, and entry RPM was 324. Because of the flight regime, however, engine failure was an instantly recognizable condition and evaluation of the characteristics using a 1 second collective delay was considered a practical test technique.

At the higher airspeed, above 120 KIAS, the most desirable technique for maintaining rotor RPM

control differed considerably from normal helicopter practice. At high airspeeds, i.e., lowered collective, increasing airspeed to increase autorotational rotor RPM, etc., produced effects opposite to those desired. In this flight regime, rotor speed control was complicated by increasing sensitivity to angle of attack, airspeed, and collective application. Large excursions in rotor RPM and extreme difficulty in RPM control resulted. The easiest of the variables to control was collective setting. The most desirable technique, following a throttle chop at high speed, was to maintain a fixed collective setting and execute a cyclic flare of sufficient abruptness to maintain the desired rotor RPM. The desired rotor RPM could be maintained accurately and it was practical to use cyclic flares which necessitated the application of additional collective to maintain RPM below the upper limit. These flares produced the desirable benefits of a rapid reduction of airspeed into the normal autorotational range, an increase in altitude, and allowed more convenient control of rotor RPM. At the lower airspeeds, normal helicopter autorotational flight procedures were adequate. These characteristics represent a pilot checkout and training consideration.

Table VI below summarizes the test results.

TABLE VI AUTOROTATIONAL ENTRY TESTS BELL MODEL 209

1 SECOND DELAY

Entry True Airspeed kt	Altitude Gained During Flare ft	Time to	From Entry 70 Knots sec	Test Weight 1b
107	18		9.00	8100
125	31		17.00	8100
146	97		21.00	8100
154	71		21.50	8100
152	228		15,50	8100
110	41		8.50	8800
126	71		17.00	8800
148	162		15.25	8800

13. Engine Inlet Characteristics

a. Data for the engine inlet temperature rise and pressure loss characteristics was taken with the instrumentation provided by the contractor. The results are presented in Figures 17 and 18, Part II.

b. The compressor inlet temperature rise was higher than that of a standard UH-1B (+2 degrees C) at speeds below 80 KCAS. The +5 degrees C measured during the limited OGE hovering tests should be decreased for improvement of the hovering performance under ambient conditions when engine power available is less than the transmission limit of 1100 SHP.

The engine inlet pressure recovery characteristics were found to be different than those established by the contractor in Bell Report No. 209-099-004 (Reference 6). These differences should be resolved during any future tests to allow accurate analysis of the installed engine power available characteristics.

14. Control Position Trim Stability

a. Control position trim stability data was taken during the level flight performance tests of the various configurations and is presented in Figures 27, 28, 30 and 31, Part II. Additionally, the data collected during the limited climb performance tests is presented to illustrate the effect of altitude during a constant-IAS, constant-power climb. (Reference Figure 29 of Part II).

b. Longitudinal trim stability was positive for all of the conditions tested and generally agreed

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with previous contractor test results. Both the lateral cyclic and pedal control positions tended to move to the left at high speeds and high power settings. These trim changes were not objectionable and wide margins of control travel remained.

Figure 29, Part II indicates a coupling between collective and longitudinal cyclic control that caused a nose down trim change as collective was increased. This trim change was not objectionable during climbing flight.

15. Static Longitudinal Speed Stability

a. Static longitudinal speed stability tests were conducted by establishing a trim airspeed and, with power fixed, investigating the speeds above and below trim by the use of longitudinal cyclic control. Tests were accomplished during level flight, high speed descending flight, climbing flight and autorotational flight. The results are presented in Figures 32 through 36 of Part II.

b. The static longitudinal speed stability was adequately positive for all of the conditions tested. The full range of C.G. locations could not be investigated because of the status of the contractor's development program. Any future testing should include an investigation of the static longitudinal speed stability at the most adverse C.G. (aft limit). Stability levels less positive than those shown by Figure 32, Part II should not be accepted as satisfactory. Weaker static stability characteristics in high speed flight would adversely affect trimmability and increase the pilot attention required to maintain constant airspeed in high speed descending flight.

No adverse coupling effects were noted during these

tests. Any future tests should include establishment of the static longitudinal speed stability characteristics over a range of practical collective settings in high speed descending flight to verify the absence of coupling.

16. Static Lateral Directional Stability

a. Static lateral directional stability tests were conducted by establishing a zero sideslip trim condition at a selected airspeed and varying the sideslip angle while measuring the control positions required to maintain a a constant track over the ground.

b. For all conditions tested, strong positive dihedral characteristics were present. These characteristics became more apparent with increasing airspeed. The degree of dihedral effect provided was much greater than that of a standard UH-1B/ 540 helicopter which is only weakly positive at best. The strong dihedral effect was beneficial and contributed to the ease of accomplishing well coordinated maneuvering flight with minimum pilot attention to the directional controls. During any future testing, these characteristics should be investigated over the allowable C.G. range.

17. Dynamic Lateral-Directional Stability

a. Tests to determine the lateral-directional damping and dynamic stability characteristics were conducted by establishing trimmed zero sideslip flight at a selected airspeed. Without retrimming, the helicopter was placed in a stabilized sideslip. The controls were released to return to their zero sideslip position and the resulting aircraft motion was recorded. These tests were performed with the lateral and directional ASE channels both On and Off.

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b. With ASE On, the lateral directional damping and shortperiod dynamic stability characteristics were adequate and complemented the other flight characteristics that contributed to the overall suitability of the design as a weapons platform.

With ASE Off, the helicopter did not exhibit the natural lateral-directional damping predicted by the contractor (Reference 7, Bell Report No. 209-099-012. The measured damping characteristics barely met the



criteria of minimum required in the case of ASE failure and were considerably lower than the minimum requirements for armed aircraft.

With ASE Off, at speeds greater than 120 KCAS, the low level of natural damping caused the helicopter to exhibit lateral directional oscillations that were easily excited and could not be damped by the pilot. Figures J and K summarize the results and Figures 40 and 41, Part II present time histories of representative tests.



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Figures J and K illustrate the requirement for ASE for this helicopter in order to meet the minimum characteristics required for an acceptable weapons platform. The natural lateral directional characteristics allowed safe flight at all airspeeds up to V_L in the event of an ASE failure at high speed. Deceleration to a speed where the characteristics were satisfactory (120 KCAS) was uncomfortable and was accompanied by roll excursions of \pm 10 degrees but could be accomplished without unusual skill or corrective action by the pilot.

18. Maneuvering Flight

a. Longitudinal Characteristics

Data from symmetrical pull-ups and stabilized turning flight was used to evaluate the longitudinal characteristics during maneuvering flight. The symmetrical pull-up tests were performed by establishing a level flight trim airspeed, altitude and power setting. Without disturbing the trim settings a cyclic climb to a slightly higher altitude was initiated. Following the climb, a pushover to trim airspeed allowed the aircraft to be maneuvered so that it was level at the trim altitude and airspeed, with some amount of normal acceleration, depending upon the amount of aft cyclic applied. Tests were conducted for each trim airspeed over a range of normal acceleration values.

The stabilized turning flight data was accumulated during the performance tests.

Figures 42, 43 and 44, Part II present the data collected during the symmetrical pull-up maneuvers. As tested, without longitudinal ASE, the helicopter exhibited undesirable characteristics which became increasingly objectionable with increasing airspeed. Specifically, the control power and damping characteristics were related in a manner which resulted in considerable "apparent overshoot" and excessive time required following the cyclic input to reach peak normal acceleration. These characteristics, illustrated below in Figure L, coupled with increasing pitch sensitivity with airspeed and



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a light gradient of stick force per g (approximately 4 pound/g) made the pilot task of maneuvering the helicopter more difficult than is acceptable for a weapons platform. Additionally, these characteristics caused reluctance to utilize fully the maneuvering capability of the helicopter because of the difficulty in controlling pitch rate and normal acceleration accurately. More desirable characteristics would be present if the stick force per g (F_S/g) were increased and the damping improved to provide reduced time constants (inertia/control power ratio) for the transient responses to cyclic inputs. Suggested target values are a F_S/g value of 10 pounds/g and a time constant of .3 seconds as presented in U. S. Army Aviation Materiel Laboratories (USAAVNMLABS) Report TR-65-45 (Reference 2).

Figures 46 and 47 present the longitudinal control position data collected during stabilized turning flight. For most conditions tested, the stickfixed maneuvering stability gradients were adequately positive in that an aft displacement was required to produce an increase in load factor. The stick-free gradients could have been improved by an increase in force/g.

At the lowest airspeed tested (102 KCAS, See Figure 47, Part II) the data indicates that the stick-fixed (and stick-free) maneuvering gradients were negative. The data was collected using a constant airspeed, increasing power test technique. This should be investigated further by the contractor to define accurately the areas of negative longitudinal cyclic maneuvering stability. At a minimum, positive stick-free maneuvering stability should be provided. b. Lateral Maneuverability

Lateral Maneuverability was evaluated by applying step inputs, both left and right, of various sizes and measuring the helicopter reactions. The lateral and directional ASE systems were ON for most of these tests.

The results of these tests are presented in Figures 48, 49 and 50, Part II. With the ASE damping characteristics as tested, more than enough lateral control power was available. During the turn reversal and tear drop maneuvers, the practical maximum usable rates of roll were on the order of 40-45 degrees/second. Roll rates of this magnitude were easily obtained without encountering control stops.

The maneuvering requirements of the armed helicopter mission have been widely recognized as demanding lateral controllability and transient response characteristics more rigorous than those available from the present generation of helicopters. As tested, the Cobra did not represent any progress in the improvement of lateral characteristics. Figure M was taken from a 1964 paper titled "Control and Maneuver Requirements for Armed Helicopters" by Mr. Wernecke and Mr. Edenborough of the Bell Helicopter Company. It identifies a zone of desirable lateral response characteristics for the armed mission.

It was recognized that the lateral ASE characteristics were not optimized and Figure M included the contractor's predicted characteristics. This improvement was expected to be achieved by proper tailoring of ASE damping, quickening, and washout signals. While

the lateral transient maneuvering flight characteristics were not as objectionable as those for the longitudinal axis, the parameters of Figure M and the pilot's comments both indicate the flying qualities could have been improved by increasing both the roll damping and roll c. Cyclic Force Harmony (Aft Cockpit)

As tested, the Cobra had cyclic forces in the ratio of $1:1_{\theta}$ longitudinal and lateral, from the trimmed position. These forces were provided by standard geometry



sensitivity. The criteria of Figure M were verified by the similar requirements of USAAML TR-65-45, "Suggested Flying Qualities for V/STOL Aircraft," (Reference 2).

UH-1 force-feel hardware. During high speed maneuvering flight, improved harmony would result from the use of force for equal displacement ratios which are between 2:1

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and 4:1, for the longitudinal and lateral controls.

19. Vibration Characteristics

a. Vibration data was collected during tests which included: the level flight performance tests, the stabilized turning flight performance tests, and test conducted at speeds greater than 155 KTAS in descending flight using a cross section of power settings. Data was recorded at the pilot's station, both laterally and vertically. Analyzed data is presented in Figures 53 through 62, Part II.

b. The armed helicopter mission demands lower vibration levels, especially for the low frequencies (0-10 cycles per second (CPS)), than are presently allowed by Paragraph 3.7 of MIL-H-8501A (Reference 1). The basis of the more stringent requirement is the effect of low frequency vibration on the ability of a gunner to use a gunsight effectively.

Previous armed UH-1 test programs have indicated that .lg single amplitude is an acceptable maximum value for 1-per-rev (5.4 CPS) vibrations. Although the test results indicated the presence of vibration levels in excess of those predicted by the contractor, the vibration levels were acceptable over the entire flight envelope. One-per-rev components of the vibration waveform were usually under .lg single amplitude in level flight, increasing during turning flight and in high speed descents. The 2-perrev levels stayed under .2g single amplitude except in high speed descending flight at the higher power settings, (i.e., high collective pitch angles).



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Higher order harmonics 6, 8, and 10 per rev were present. Below 160 KCAS, the higher frequencies were predominantly 6 and 8 per rev. Above 160 KCAS, 10 per rev was the dominant high frequency. In the cockpit, the higher harmonics were detectable but not objectionable. Although no gunsight was fitted and no firing tests were conducted, the flight crew was of the opinion that the composite vibration levels encountered would not have limited the mission capability. Improvement in the vibration levels, however, would enhance crew comfort and effectivity and indirectly improve mission capability.

20. Airspeed Calibration

a. An airspeed position

error calibration was performed using a helicopter pacer (trailing bomb) in the low speed range (below 100 knots), and a fixed wing pacer for the higher speed range.

b. The results of the airspeed calibration are presented in Figure 63, Part II. This calibration differed considerably from the characteristics presented in Bell Report 204-100-121, Reference 5. Figure 4. The Bell data indicated a zero position error for all speeds and Figure 63 of this report indicated a negative position error at indicated speeds above 100 knots. The net effect was to reduce the predicted maximum and cruise airspeeds in level flight by 4 to 5 knots, the amount of the difference. Figure 0 illustrates the calibration results.



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21. Control System Static Friction and Force

a. The rear cockpit cyclic control system was tested to establish the relationship of force and friction versus displacement. These tests were accomplished with the rotor static and with electrical and hydraulic power provided by auxiliary ground power equipment. The results are presented in Figures 64 through 67, Part II. The front cockpit cyclic charb. Figures 64 and 65 of Part II show the longitudinal cyclic control characteristics, force trim both off and on. Figure 65 is of interest because it shows that some amount of positive stick centering was present even with the force trim off. The centering force gradient, however, was quite small or non-existent near the mid position of the control travel but became quite positive near the extreme positions.

Table VII

Control	Pilot	Gunner	Rotor Control
	in	in	deg
Longitudinal Cyclic	+4.9,-4.8	±2.1	+14.0 to -13.5
Lateral Cyclic	+4.8,-4.8	±2.1	±7
Directional	±2.75	±2.7 5	-7 to +20
Collective (75%R)	9.7	6.5	0 to 22

acteristics were not determined because of a lack of test equipment small enough to work in the confined area around the sidearm cyclic control position. The gearing ratio between the front and rear cockpit controls was arranged as shown by Table VII, which is an excerpt from Bell Report 209-099-012 (Reference 7). For a given control force input, displacement at the swashplate was slightly less than half as much for the sidearm control compared to the aft cockpit cyclic.

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Figures 66 and 67, Part II present the lateral cyclic control characteristics. Figure 66 shows a unique friction band characteristic during cyclic displacements to the right of the neutral point. This condition was caused by a static imbalance of the control system mechanisms and was manifested in flight by a tendency to roll gradually to the left after the helicopter was trimmed for hands-off level flight.

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22. Miscellaneous ---

a. With the control system configuration of the test article, flight from the front seat was practical only with the force trim off and with a minimum friction adjustment on the aft cyclic. Otherwise, the combination of limited leverage with the sidearm cyclic placement and the forces made maneuvering forces unacceptably hig., With force trim off, friction and residual centering caused forces that were still high enough to be annoying but were flyable. The static imbalance of the lateral control system mentioned in Paragraph E.21, which created a constant left roll input was more noticeable and objectionable with the sidearm cyclic. A constant right force had to be held and created a very noticeable out-ofsymmetry force and roll rate response characteristic. Left rolling inputs could be made with relatively light forces but a right input or an input to arrest a left roll rate required forces which were disconcertingly high. This insecure feeling was heightened by the leverage problem caused by arm position which allowed better mechanical advantage to the wrist and hand for left inputs than for right inputs. Longitudinally the sidearm control was stiffer than was considered desirable.

The sidearm collective and rudder pedals in the front cockpit were quite acceptable and no particular problem was noticed while adapting to their characteristics.

After some practice with the controls in forward flight, the observer, was able to complete an approach to a hover followed by a touchdown. This was accomplished under favorable atmospheric conditions of very light wind and no turbulence. The hovering characteristics were satisfactory once the approach had been completed. The problems of the approach centered around the normal trim changes with airspeed and the sidearm cyclic characteristics mentioned above.

As tested, the front seat control system would be unsuitable for service use based solely on the requirement for assistance from the pilot to remove friction and turn off the force trim in order for control to be assumed at the gunner's station. In a combat environment, the effort required to accomplish these two tasks may suddenly be beyond the capability of the occupant of the rear cockpit. Additionally, improvement in the cyclic control system friction and forces would be necessary to provide satisfactory control for normal, not maneuvering flight.

b. The lateral force trim system, as tested, was unsatisfactory for the reasons mentioned in Paragraphs E.21 and E.22A, which pointed out that a left rolling input was always present due to the static balance of the control system. The inability to remain in stable, hands off, trimmed level flight was very annoying.

c. Flight during turbulent air conditions produced the opinion that maneuvering flight airspeeds and control input rates should be tailored to the atmospheric conditions. One hund-

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PHOTO 3 - SIDEARM CYCLIC CONTROL

red and twenty KIAS was determined to be a reasonably comfortable maneuvering airspeed under conditions of moderate to severe turbulence. The roll rates and load factors used for maneuvering under these conditions were more limited by common sense than by aircraft capability. Sufficient documentation was accomplished to indicate, not too surprisingly, that the helicopter can be flown in turbulent air.

d. Nap-of-the-earth flight was conducted over some rather demanding terrain. The helicopter was capable of good terrain following. The maneuvaring flight characteristics as tested were enhanced by the excellent field of vision from both cockpits. Improvement in the maneuvering flight characteristics in accordance with the discussion of Paragraph E.18 of this report should result in very acceptable nap-of-the-earth flight characteristics.

e. The structural demonstration and flight loads survey for the test article were incomplete. Complete knowledge of the structural integrity and a fatigue life substantiation was, therefore, not available. Prior to further Army engineering flight tests, these areas should be expanded by the contractor so that a more complete evaluation can be conducted. It is doubtful that the dynamic components would have the same fatigue life as when used for the UH-1B application.

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The allowable load factor-airspeed relationship recommended by the contractor for this evaluation is shown in Figure P. g. Under some flight conditions of low "g," primarily pushovers from the climbs following dive recoveries, natural frequ-

FIG. P

HUEY COBRA VARIATION OF NORMAL LOAD FACTOR WITH AIRSPEED 8800 LBS.

O TEAR DROP MANEUVERS DTURN REVERSALS & SYMMETRICAL PULL UPS



Also presented are the design limit load factor, the calculated maneuvering capability and some of the peak load factors observed during these tests. The values observed indicate that the agility maneuvers were performed using the maximum maneuvering capability of the design. The maneuvering test results, therefore, can be presumed to be representative of the maximum capability; and no additional maneuvering capability would be realized when the contractor has developed a full structural envelope.

f. Rocket and machine gun firing capability had not been established for the test article. Prior to further Army engineering tests, the contractor should demonstrate the aircraft characteristics during rocket and machine gun firing under all flight conditions. ency pylon motion was encountered. This motion was of the same type and frequency (1/2 - 3/4 per rev)previously encountered and reported as objectionable during tests of the UH-1B/540 helicopter. In this case, damping was quick and positive following an increase in load factor to 1.0 g. Future effort should include the verification of good pylon damping over the allowable load factor and airspeed envelope. Based on the earlier UH-1B/540 undamped pylon motion problems, future Army engineering tests of this design should include investigation of the ASE and pylon stability compatibility under all flight conditions.

h. The limit airspeeds recommended by the contractor for the evaluation are presented in Part III, Annex D and included 190 KCAS from sea level to a density

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altitude of 4000 feet. The helicopter was capable, in an armed configuration, of a power limited level flight speed of approximately 155 KCAS. The speed range between 155 and 190 KCAS was quite usable in shallow dives. Vibration levels were tolerable and acceptable flight characteristics were present. The high never exceed speed (VNE) would offer the opportunity to develop tactics that would take advantage of the high speeds. If procurement of this helicopter type is initiated, the procuring agency should specify that the V speed should not than 190 KCAS be less and an increase in this value is desirable.

i. During the evaluation, the helicopter was maintained by contractor personnel. At least once during the program the helicopter was turned over to the contractor flight personnel for retracking the rotor because of excessive 1-per-rev vibrations. Considering the experience with the standard UH-1B/540 helicopters, difficulty in maintaining good track would seem to be an inherent 540 rotor system problem. If pro-curement of this type helicopter is initiated, the procuring agency should require the contractor to demonstrate consistency of rotor track and vibration levels when the helicopter is operated with a normal level of maintenance effort.

j. The T53-L-13 engine provided power available considerably in excess of the rated transmission limit of 1100 SHP. If procurement of this type helicopter is initiated, the procuring agency should investigate the possibility of increasing the allowable transmission torque limits to take advantage of the installed power. An increased SHP "short-time" 5 minute rating would be of value during takeoff and landing and during high speed maneuvering flight.

k. Finally, it should be recognized that the test article provided for the evaluation was in a relatively early stage of contractor development and test. At the beginning of the evaluation, the helicopter had accumulated only 68 hours since roll-out. A large percentage of that time had been accumulated during demonstrations of the dive speed capability as part of a sales effort.

This evaluation included some of the most structurally severe maneuvers and tests ever attempted by a government helicopter test agency. The fact that the test article withstood the treatment was a tribute to the contractor and the people of his staff responsible for its design and construction.

The actual parts replacement during the evaluation consisted of an oil pressure warning light switch and a forward fuel boost pump. Non-routine maintenance included the rotor retracking already mentioned and attempts to improve the ASE operation, which was recognized as not being optimized at the beginning of the tests.

Considering the manner in which the helicopter had to be operated to meet the test objectives, maintenance was remarkably low for a prototype aircraft.

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F. Conclusions



The HueyCobra test article provided for the evaluation demonstrated acceptable flight characteristics over an airspeed envelope that was considerably larger than that for a standard armed UH-1B/540 helicopter. Although most of the flight characteristics were less optimum than predicted by the contractor, tactical use of airspeeds during dives up to the limit of the test vehicle (190 KCAS) appeared to be feasible with characteristics which would allow effective weapons delivery.

The use of an existing set of dynamic components matched to a new fuselage design with improved drag characteristics resulted in improved level flight performance in terms of speed and range for comparable power settings and fuel loads. The contractor's performance estimates were found to be optimistic with most of the optimism apparently caused by an erroneous airspeed position error calibration. Test results indicated that the hovering and climb performance characteristics of the design were similar to those of a standard UH-1B/540 helicopter, excluding the difference in performance that could be attributed to the more powerful T53-L-13 engine.

The helicopter accomplished the agility maneuvers satisfactorily although improved handling qualities

during transient maneuvering flight would reduce the pilot effort and attention required to utilize the full design capability.

The vibration characteristics were adequate for the anticipated mission over the flight envelope investigated.

The cockpit configuration provided an excellent field of vision for both the gunner and pilot. Cockpit ventilation was marginal. The sidearm cyclic control provided for the gunner's station was characterized by excessive and asymmetric lateral forces and would have to be improved to be considered satisfactory. Noise level in the aft cockpit was considered to be excessive.

High speed autorotational entries required a rotor RPM control technique that was different from a normal helicopter maneuver and would represent a pilot checkout and training requirement.

Flight to the limit airspeed, 190 KCAS, was possible with the ASE off, although the natural airframe lateral directional damping characteristics would limit effective use as a weapons platform to speeds below approximately 120 KCAS.

The fatigue life and structural integrity of the design remains to be substantiated by a contractor demonstration.

G. Recommendations

1. Improvements in the following areas should be accomplished prior to further Army engineering tests of this design:

a. Improve maneuvering flight characteristics, both laterally and longitudinally. The following suggestions are presented in the areas where improvement is desired:

(1) Provide a stick force per g gradient during stabilized turning flight and during pull-up turning flight and during pull-up maneuvers. A minimum gradient of 10 pounds/g is suggested.

(2) Reduce the time required to achieve 63 percent of the maximum normal acceleration during step inputs. The present time constant is 1.2 seconds; a desirable target is .3 seconds.

(3) Reduce the time required to achieve 63 percent of the maximum steady rolling rate following step inputs. The present time constant is .5 seconds; a desirable maximum is .25 seconds.

(4) Maintain a force harmony ratio between the longitudinal and lateral controls which is between 2:1 and 4:1 throughout the speed range of the helicopter while satisfying items (1) through(3). b. Establish the usable center-of-gravity range of the design and at the most adverse combination of gross weight and center of gravity, provide longitudinal static stability gradients that are at least as stable as the least stable conditions presented in this report.

c. Measure the aft cockpit noise level and reduce to meet requirements of the appropriate military specifications.

d. Investigate the negative maneuvering stability below 100 KIAS in stabilized turning flight and, if present, provide positive longitudinal position vs force g gradients

e. Eliminate the longitudinal trim change in left sideslips and match with the desirable lack of longitudinal trim change during right sideslips.

f. Eliminate left rolling control input caused by configuration of control system and which could not be trimmed out.

g. Improve front seat cyclic control to provide acceptable control forces and harmony. Control transition to the front seat must be accomplished without assistance presently required from

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the pilot to turn off force trim and remove cyclic friction.

h. Demonstrate autorotational entries at all speeds to $V_{\rm NE}$ and develop recommended entry technique.

i. Demonstrate low g (down to 0.0 g) pylon stability and helicopter controllability over the usable speed range to $V_{\rm NE}$.

j. Complete structural demonstration and establish structural integrity and structural margins over the weight range to include the proposed maximum allowable gross weight.

k. Demonstrate and establish the requirements of Paragraphs a, b, e, h, i and j for the most adverse external stores configurations.

1. Investigate the engine inlet pressure recovery characteristics and resolve differences between government and contractor measurements.

m. Demonstrate autorotation touchdown at maximum gross weight and develop recommended touchdown techniques.

n. Demonstrate ASE and pylon stability compatibility for all allowable flight conditions, gross weights and approved maneuvers.

2. The following items are recommended for accomplishment prior to release of the design for possible service and logistical test:

a. Establish the fatigue life of the dynamic components based on criteria applicable to the armed helicopter mission.

b. Complete a "firing" structural and handling qualities demonstration to be followed by government verification of the handling qualities during weapons firing.

c. Demonstrate consistency of rotor track and vibration levels when helicopter is operated with a normal level of maintenance effort. The government should establish the acceptable level of maintenance effort to be termed "normal."

d. Provide improved canopy operation and canopy "hold-opens."

e. Provide adequate cockpit heating and ventilation.

f. Complete the correction of deficiencies reported during government engineering tests. Verification of the corrections or deviations from the requirements must be accomplished by the engineering test agency prior to release of the full flight envelope for service and logistical test.

g. Provide armored seats for both cockpits which do not restrict the usable travel of the aft cockpit flight controls or a front cockpit gunsight.

h. Relocate switches, circuit breakers and instruments in a more logical manner as determined by a mockup board.

3. The following items are recommended for study or action to provide an improved capability for the weapons system.

a. Increase the present

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 $V_{\rm NE}$ limit of 190 KCAS to the maximum value consistent with the safe capability of the design. Under no circumstances should the government consider acceptance of flight limits more restrictive than those provided during this evaluation.

b. Investigate the possibility of increasing the allowable takeoff and continuous torque limits in order to take advantage of the power which will be available from the T53-L-13 engine under favorable atmospheric conditions. The characteristics of the rotor at high speeds and high collective settings should be considered when increasing these limits.

c. Initiate a study to provide improved vibration characteristics. While the vibration levels of the prototype were generally acceptable, degradation with flying time in a manner similar to that presently being experienced by the UH-1B/540 helicopters will result in a significant reduction in mission capability.

..... PART II GRAFHICAL ANALYZED TEST DATA

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY FIGURE NO. 16 LEVEL FLIGHT PERFORMANCE HVEYCOBRA N2095

> ROTOR RPM = 324 DENSITY ALTITUDE = 6640 FT. CT = 50-18 × 10¢ GROSS WEIGHT = 8180 LB. C.G. LOCATION = 193.3 IN. (MID) GEAR UP PODS OFF



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FIGURE NO. 34 STATIC LONGITUDINAL SPEED STABILITY HUEYCOBRA N209J

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	4820	8150	193.2 (MID)	314.0	AUTOROTATION	









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FIGURE NO. 60 VIBRATION CHARACTERISTICS HUEYCOBRA N2093

PILOT LATERAL

ALTITUDE = 3250 FEET GROSS WEIGHT + 8260 C.G. LOCATION = 293.2 IN (MID) ROTOR RPM = 324 PODS ON WITHOUT NOSE CONES GEAR DOWN STABLE TURNS





FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY FIGURE NO. 62 TBRATION CHARACTERISTICS IN HIGH SPEED DESCENDING FLIGHT HUEYCOBAR N209J NO ROCKET PODS LAMPING GEAR RETRACTED 8080 Las. PLADT LATERAL NCA5 SYM AYA. 154 0 Π. 158 NUMBERS ADJACENT TO Δ 166 CATA POINTS DESIGNATE ٥. 180 TEST SHAFT HORSEPOWER 0 185 1100 SNA 2 .4 5 2 6/REP NO ÷. VIGRATI Δ 4/REV E1 301117d 17 4/REV AM 200 200 ŝ. 250 4 NGK ZREN IREV 1100 SM 2,40 150 160 170 180 190 200 210 TRUE AIRSPEED ~ KNOTS 101











PART III ANNEXES

AMNEX A. References

1. Military Specification, MIL-H-8501A, 7 September 1961, "Helicopter Flying and Ground Handling Qualities, General Requirements for."

2. USAAVLBS Technical Report 65-45, "Suggested Requirements for V/STOL Flying Qualities," U. S. Army Aviation Materiel Laboratories, June 1965.

3. Paper, "Control and Maneuver Requirements for Armed Helicopters," Bell Helicopter Company, May 1964.

4. Report No. 209-947-010, "Detail Specification for Model 209 Tactical Helicopter," Bell Helicopter Company, March 1966.

5. Report No. 204-100-121, "Huey-Cobra Interim Flight Test Progress Report, Model 209," Bell Helicopter Company, October 1966.

6. Report No. 209-099-004, "Preliminary Operational Envelope Model 209 Helicopter," Bell Helicopter Company, November 1965.

7. Technical Data Report No. 209-099-012, "Model 209 Improved UH-1 Weapons Helicopter," Bell Helicopter Company, August 1965.

8. Model Specification No. 104.33 for T53-L-13 Turbine Engine, Lycoming, Division of AVCOM Corporation, September 1964.

9. (C) Message 13923, AMCRD, Hq, U. S. Army Materiel Command (USAMC), 23 October 1965, subject: Expedited Flight Test Evaluation (U).

10. (C) Message 14297, AMCRD, Hq, USAMC, 28 October 1965, subject: Addition of UH-2 to Expedited Flight Test Evaluation (U).

11. (C) Plan of Test of Armed Helicopters (U), U. S. Army Aviation Test Activity, 28 October 1965.

12. (C) Report, "Early Engineering Confirmatory Flight Test Evaluation Improved Armed Helicopter," (U), Hq, USAMC, undated.

 Military Specification MIL-A-8806, "General Specification for Acoustical Noise Level in Aircraft,"
October 1956.

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ANNEX B. Calculations and Analysis Methods

The following calibrated instrumentation was installed and maintained by contractor and U. S. Army Aviation Test personnel:

1. Front Cockpit (Gunner's Station)

Altitude (Boom) Airspeed (Boom) High Torque Pressure Low Torque Pressure Outside Air Temperature Engine Inlet Temperatures (4 Stations) Fuel Used Counter Oscillograph and Photo Panel Correlation Counter

2. Rear Cockpit (Pilot's Station)

Collective Position Indicator Lateral Cyclic Position Indicator Longitudinal Cyclic Position Indicator Rudder Pedal Position Indicator Angle of Sideslip Sensitive Rotor Tachometer Ship's Rotor and Engine (N₂) Tachometer Sensitive Airspeed (Ship's System) Altimeter (Ship's System) Normal Acceleration Standard Torquemeter Correlation Counter

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Standard Engine RPM (N₁) Standard Exhaust Gas Temperature Other Standard Aircraft Instrumentation 3. <u>Photo Panel</u> Compressor Inlet Pressure (4 Stations) Airspeed (Boom) Altitude (Boom) Clock Correlation Counter Fuel Counter Low Torque Pressure High Torque Pressure Engine RPM (N₁) Rotor RPM

Outside Air Temperature

Exhaust Gas Temperature

- 4. Oscillograph
 - Event Marker

Rotor Marker

Pilot Vertical Vibration

Collective Position

109

Angle of Sideslip Yaw Rate Yaw Angular Acceleration Roll Rate Roll Angular Acceleration Lateral Cyclic Position Rudder Pedal Position Roll Angle Longitudinal Cyclic Position Pitch Angle Pitch Rate Angle of Attack Pitch Angular Acceleration C.G. Normal Acceleration Pilot Lateral Vibration

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ANNEX C GENERAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION

1.	Dimensions and Areas	
	Overall Length (Rotors Turning)	637.00 in
	Overall Width (Rotor Trailing)	112.0 in
	Overall Height @ 6600 Pounds (Design Gross Weight)	145.6 in
	Q Main Rotor to G Tail Rotor	321.31 in
	Q Main Rotor to Elevator Hinge Line	198.4 in
	Elevator Area	15.0 sq ft
	Elevator Airfoil Section	Clark Y

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2.

Vertical Stabilizer Area for Aerodynamic Data	31.24 sq ft
Vertical Stabilizer Airfoil Section	Spocial Camber
Vertical Stabilizer Aero- dynamic Center	FS 476.8, WL 76.0
Wing Area	
Total	24.7 sq ft
Outboard of B.L. 18	15.0 sq ft
Wing S pa n	9.0 ft
Airfoil Section	NACA 64A-421
Angle of Incidence	11 deg
Main Rotor	
Number of Blades	2
Diameter	44 ft
Disc Area	1520 sq ft
Disc Loading @ 6600 Pounds	4.35 lb/sq ft
Power Loading @ 1100 hp and 6600 Pounds	6.00 lb/hp
Blade Chord	27 in
Rotor Solidity	.0650
Blade Area	99 sq ft
Blade Airfoil	9-1/3% Symm Section Special
Blade Twist	455 deg/ft
Hub Precone Angle	2-3/4 deg
Tip Speed	
324 Rotor RPM, 6600 Engine RPM	746 ft/sec
294 Rotor RPM, 6000 Engine RPM	677 ft/sec

3.	Anti-Torque Rotor	
	Number of Blades	2
	Diameter	8.5 ft
	Disc Area	56.8 sq ft
	Blade Chord	10.0 in
	Rotor Solidity	.125
	Blade Area	7₄08 sq ft
	Blade Airfoil	10% Symm Section Special
	Blade Twist	0 deg
	Tip Speed	
	1655 Rotor RPM, 6600 Engine RPM	735 ft/sec
	1505 Rotor TPM, 6000 Engine RPM	669 ft/sec
4.	Transmission Drive Ratios	
	Engine to Main Rotor	20.383:1
	Rotor Speed at 6600 Engine RPM	324 RPM
	Rotor Speed at 6000 Engine RPM	294 RPM
	Engine to Antitorque Rotor	3.990:1
	Rotor Speed at 6600 Engine RPM	1655 RPM
	Rotor Speed at 6000 Engine RPM	1505 RPM
	Engine to Antitorque Rotor Drive System	1.535:1
	Shaft Speed at 6600 Engine RPM	4310 RPM
	Shaft Speed at 6000 Engine RPM	3910 RPM
5.	Engine	
	Lycoming Aircraft Gas Turbine	LTCIK-4
	U. S. Army Designation	r53-l-13

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was was some and some a was some ANNEX D. Flight Limits

The flight limits used for this evaluation were established by Reference 6, Bell Report No. 209-099-004. A summary of the limits are presented below:

1. Airspeed

190 KCAS from sea level to 4000 feet (density altitude). Decreasing 8 KCAS/1000 feet above 4000 feet.

2. Altitude

Sea level to 10,000 feet (no oxygen equipment installed).

3. Center of gravity - gross weight envelope.



4. Variation of normal load factor with airspeed.



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5. Sideslip angle limits \pm 20 degrees of sideslip allowed at 60 KCAS with a linear decrease to \pm 5 degrees at 190 KCAS.

6. Intentional autorotational entry speed maximum - 150 KCAS.

7. Gross Weight

9200 pounds maximum

8. RPM Limits

Power On - 6600 to 6400 Engine RPM

324 to 314 Rotor RPM

Power Off 304* to 339 Rotor RPM

* Transient Lower Limit = 250 RPM

Power On During Dives and Maneuvers - 324 Rotor RPM

9. Temperature and Pressure Limits

Engine Oil Temperature	200	deg F
Transmission Oil Temperature	225	deg F
90 deg Gear Box Oil Temperature	225	deg F
42 deg Gear Box Oil Temperature	225	deg F
Engine Oil Pressure		20-80 PSI
Transmission Oil Pressure		30-70 PSI
Fuel Pressure		5-20 PSI

10. Transmission Power Limit

1100 SHP continuous

ANNEX E. Weight and Balance

The test helicopter was weighed prior to the first evaluation flight. Because of the instrumentation and special equipment installations, the weights were not representative of a production airframe.

Basic Weight	5590 lbs
Included Unusable Fuel	
Full Oil and Hydraulic Reservoirs	
Rocket Pods Installed	
Instrumentation Film Onboard	
Fuel Weight (242.6 gallons)	1576 lbs
TOTAL (Without Crew or Payload)	7166 lbs

Ballast was added as required to obtain the desired test gross weight and C.G. locations.

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3 REPORT TITLE		<u> </u>					
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4 DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates)							
Final report, 13 November 1965 throug 5 AUTHOR(S) (Lust name, first name, initial)	h I December 19	65	~ · · · · · · · · ·_				
John C. Kidwell, Project Engineer John K. Foster, Major, U. S. Army TC,	Project Pilot						
6 REPORT DATE	74 TOTAL NO OF	PAGES	7b NO OF REFS				
May 1966	122	REPORT NUM	13				
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USATECOM Project No. 4-6-0300-01 USAAVNTA Project No. 65-30	9b OTHER REPORT NO(S) (Any other numbers that may be assigned this report)						
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	U. S. Army	Materiel	Command 20315				
¹³ ABSTRACT This report presents the re ducted to determine the technical engi type Model 209, S/N N209J, Huey Cobra ducted by the U. S. Army Aviation Test California. Tests were conducted at E nine flights were made for a total of November through I December 1965. The paring the test plan, executing the te the performance and flight characteris by the contractor's technical reports, bra design offered speed, maneuverabil and other desirable armed aircraft cha helicopter in the U. S. Army inventory airspeed at sea level with no external knots true airspeed. Acceptable vibra weapons platform were present during a dive speed of 190 knots calibrated air ded less-than-optimum high speed handl cockpit, a front seat "sidearm" cyclic arrangement, marginal cockpit ventilat factory because lateral forces could the not allow evaluation of the design dur	sults of an eng neering flight weapons helicop Activity (USAA dwards Air Forc 32 hours flying USAAVNTA was a st and preparin tics did not co the results of ity, good field racteristics no . The maximum stores and the tion levels and ll test conditi speed (KCAS). ing qualities, that was unsat ion and a cycli ot be trimmed t s evaluation re	ineering characte ter. Th VNTA), E e Base, time du ssigned g the te nform wi these t s of vis t presen (power 1 landing flight ons whic The majc high noi isfactor c force o zero. sulted i ing, tou	a flight evaluation con- eristics of the proto- is evaluation was con- dwards Air Force Base, California. Twenty- ering the period 13 responsibility for pre- est report. Although th the values predicted ests show that the Co- cion from the cockpit, tily available from any imited) level flight gear retracted was 162 characteristics for a ch included the limit or problem areas inclu- se levels in the aft by because of the force trim that was unsatis- The limited contractor n limitations that did achdown autorotations,				
DD FORM 1473 (See continua	tion sheet)	UNCLAS	SIFIED				
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Engineering Flight Evaluation of the Bell Model 209 Armed Helicopter

RDT&E Project No. 1F141807D174 USATLCOM Project No. 4-6-0300-01 USAAVNTA Project No. 65-30

autorotation entries at speeds above 150 kCAS and flight at extreme center-of-gravity locations. Additionally, the contractor's full structural demonstration was not complete. Development work remained to be accomplished in the areas of fatigue test and flight loads. Generally, performance levels were somewhat less than the contractor's predicted values. Low speed performance, i.e., hover and climb flight, was similar to that of the UH-1 B/540 helicopters. High speed performance was, of course, considerably improved. The tests showed that Automatic Stabilization Equipment (ASE) was required to provide adequate lateral-directional damping for a weapons platform at speeds above 120 KCAS. Safe flight was possible, however, in the event of ASE failure at high speed.