

Bell Helicopter **TEXTRON**

Bell Helicopter Textron
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INFORMATION LETTER-47-79-1

TO: ALL MODEL 47 OWNERS/OPERATORS
SUBJECT: MAST BEARING P/N 47-620-973-001

BHT recently investigated several new mast bearings returned from a customer due to small hard lines on the bearing races. Preliminary inspection revealed the hard lines to be false brinelling which was located on the outer race in 4 to 5 equally spaced locations indicating the balls caused the false brinelling. The BHT spares stock was checked for similar discrepancies but none were found. It is believed that the damage due to vibrations was done during handling or shipment of the bearings to the customer.

Under these circumstances it is recommended that all new mast bearings be disassembled and inspected prior to installation on the helicopter. Bearings found with the defects described in the previous paragraph should be returned to BHT thru normal supply channels with a Discrepancy/Malfunction Report.