

URGENT

*TB 1-1520-244-20-51

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY TECHNICAL BULLETIN

ALL AH-1 SERIES AIRCRAFT, RESTRICTION ON FIRING TOW MISSILES

Headquarters, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C.
19 June 2000

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

NOTE

THIS PUBLICATION IS EFFECTIVE UNTIL RESCINDED OR SUPERSEDED.

1. Priority Classification. URGENT.

NOTE

IAW AR 95-1, paragraph 6-6.a., MACOM commanders may authorize temporary exception from ASAM message requirements. Exception may only occur when combat operations or matter or life or death in civil disasters or other emergencies are so urgent that they override the consequence of continued aircraft operation.

a. Aircraft in Use. Upon receipt of this TB, make the following entry on the DA Form 2408-13-1. Enter a **Circled Red //X//** status symbol with the following statement: "Restricted from Firing Basic TOW, ITOW, TOW 2, and TOW 2A Missiles During Forward or Sideward Flight IAW AH-1-00-ASAM-09 (TB 1-1520-244-20-51)." This entry will be made as soon as practical but NLT prior to the next flight. While the aircraft is in a **Circled Red //X//** status, it may be reported as fully mission capable (FMC).

b. Aircraft in Depot Maintenance. Same as paragraph 1.a.

c. Aircraft Undergoing Maintenance. Same as paragraph 1.a.

d. Aircraft in Transit.

(1) **Surface/Air Shipment.** Same as paragraph 1.a.

(2) **Ferry Status.** Same as paragraph 1.a.

*This TB supersedes USAAMCOM Aviation Safety Action Message AH-1-00-ASAM-09, 081208Z, JUN 00.

- e. **Maintenance Trainers (Category A and B).** N/A.
 - f. **Component/Parts in Stock at All Levels (Depot and Others) Including War Reserves.** N/A.
 - g. **Components/Parts in Work. (Depot Level and Others)** N/A.
2. **Task/Inspection Suspense Date.** Prior to next flight.
3. **Reporting Compliance Suspense Date.** No later than 29 June 2000 and report IAW paragraph 14.a. of this message.
4. **Summary of the Problem.**
- a. Several recent airbursts of TOW 2A missiles have been reported by the U.S. Marines during firings from AH-1W aircraft. The airbursts are reported to occur approximately 1.5 seconds into missile flight at, or right after, the flight motor burn ended. The cause of these detonations is currently unknown. During forward or sideways flight, it is possible for the aircraft to enter the airburst debris cloud.
 - b. **For Manpower/Downtime and Funding Impacts.** N/A.
 - c. **The Purpose of this TB is to:**
 - (1) Restrict TOW firing to "from a hover only" for all AH-1 series aircraft until further notice.
 - (2) This TB is applicable when firing the basic TOW, ITOW, TOW 2, and TOW 2A missiles.
5. **End Items to be inspected.** All AH-1 series aircraft.
6. **Assembly Components to be Inspected.** N/A.
7. **Parts to be Inspected.** N/A.
8. **Inspection Procedures.** N/A.
9. **Correction Procedures.** N/A.
10. **Supply/Parts and Disposition.** N/A.
11. **Special Tools, Jigs and Fixtures Required.** N/A.
12. **Application.**
- a. **Category of Maintenance.** AVUM.
 - b. **Estimated Time Required.** N/A.
 - c. **Estimated Cost Impact to the Field.** N/A.
 - d. **TB/MWOs to be Applied Prior to or Concurrently with this Inspection.** N/A
 - e. **Publications which Require Change as a Result of this Inspection.** N/A
13. **References.** DA PAM 738-751, 15 MAR 99.

14. Recording and Reporting Requirements.

a. Reporting Compliance Suspense Date (Aircraft). Upon entering requirements of the message/TB on DA Form 2408-13-1 on all subject mission design series (MDS) aircraft, forward a priority message, datafax or E-mail to CDR, AMCOM, ATTN: AMSAM-SF-A (SOF Compliance Officer), Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898-5000 in accordance with (IAW) AR 95-1. Datafax number is DSN 897-2111 or commercial (256) 313-2111. E-mail address is <safeadm@redstone.army.mil>. The report will cite the message/TB number, date of entry on DA Form 2408-13-1, aircraft MDS, and serial numbers of aircraft in numerical order.

b. Task/Inspection Reporting Suspense Date (Aircraft). N/A.

c. Reporting Message/TB Receipt (Spares). N/A.

d. Task/Inspection Reporting Suspense Date (Spares). N/A

e. The Following Forms are Applicable and are to be Completed in Accordance with DA Pamphlet 738-751, dated 15 March 1999:

NOTE

Unit Level Logistics System-Aviation (ULLS-A) users will use applicable electronic "E" forms.

(1) DA Form 2408-13, Aircraft Status Information Record.

(2) DA Form 2408-13-1, Aircraft Inspection and Maintenance Record.

(3) DA Form 2408-15, Historical Record for Aircraft.

15. Weight and Balance. N/A.

16. Points of Contact

a. Technical points of contact for this TB are:

(1) Primary – Mr. Gerald Johnson, AMSAM-RD-AE-I-D-O, DSN 645-9545 or Commercial (256) 955-9545, Datafax is DSN 645-9536. E-mail is <gerald.johnson@redstone.army.mil>.

(2) Alternate – Ms. Denise Bouchard, AMSAM-RD-AE-I-D-O, DSN 645-9736 or Commercial (256) 955-9736. Datafax is DSN 645-9536. E-mail is <denise.bouchard@redstone.army.mil>.

b. Forms and Records point of contact for this TB is: Ms. Ann Waldeck, AMSAM-MMC-RE-FF, DSN 746-5564 or Commercial (256) 876-5564. Datafax is DSN 746-4904 or (256) 876-4904. E-mail is <waldeck-ab@redstone.army.mil>.

c. Safety points of contact for this TB are:

(1) Primary – Mr. Harry Trumbull, AMSAM-SF-A (SAIC), DSN 897-2095 or Commercial (256) 313-2095. Datafax is DSN 897-2111 or Commercial (256) 313-2111. E-mail is <harry.trumbull@redstone.army.mil>.

(2) Alternate – Mr. Howard Chilton, AMSAM-SF-A, DSN 897-2068 or Commercial (256) 313-2068. Datafax is DSN 897-2111 or Commercial (256) 313-2111. E-mail is <howard.chilton@redstone.army.mil>.

d. Foreign Military Sales recipients requiring clarification of action advised by this TB should contact: CW5 Joseph L. Wittstrom, Security Assistance Management, AMSAM-SA, DSN 897-0410 or Commercial (256) 313-0410. E-mail is <wittstromjl@redstone.army.mil> or Mr. Ronnie W. Sammons,

AMSAM-SA-CS-NF, DSN 897-0408 or Commercial (256) 313-0408. Datafax is DSN 897-0411 or Commercial (256) 313-0411. E-mail is <sammonsrw@redstone.army.mil>. Huntsville, AL, is GMT minus 6 hours.

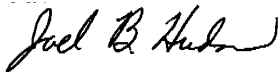
e. After hours contact the AMCOM Command Operations Center (COC) DSN 897-2066/2067 or Commercial (256) 313-2066/2067.

17. Reporting of Errors and Recommending Improvements. You can improve this TB. If you find any mistakes or if you know of a way to improve these procedures, please let us know. Mail your letter or DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to: Commander, US Army Aviation and Missile Command, ATTN: AMSAM-MMC-LS-LP, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama 35898-5230. A reply will be furnished to you. You may also send in your comments electronically to our E-mail address at <ls-lp@redstone.army.mil>, or by datafax at DSN 788-6546 or commercial (256) 842-6546. Instructions for sending a DA Form 2028 by E-mail may be found at the back of most Technical Manuals.

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

ERIC K. SHINSEKI
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff



JOEL B. HUDSON
Administrative Assistant to the
Secretary of the Army
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