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STAFF STUDY ON THE USE OF HELICOPTERS IN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Prepared by
National Highway Safety Bureau
Highway Safety Programs Service
Division of Emergency Treatment and
Transfer of the Injured

EXCERPTS FROM THE ABOVE

If it is to be used economically on the highways, it must by necessity be a multi-mission machine that can be kept busy in such diverse missions as SAR, fire patrol, photography, personnel transportation, investigations, search for missing persons, detecting violations of aeronautical regulations, searching for stolen cars, and highway patrol, but always with a priority for evacuation of injured persons.

If the machine can be kept employed on a multi-mission basis such as has been described, it can prove cost-effective, but it is unlikely that many States can afford helicopters just to stand by and evacuate victims of highway accidents, or that such limited use can be justified.

See Article on "The Helicopter in Emergency Transportation" issued by the Committee on Injuries - American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (orange book).

VIP Flights	Missions	Flight Time	Total Time	Grand Total of All Missions
1970	132	182.5	304.8	2,537
1971	90	85.2	158.1	6,800
1972	111	101.6	175.0	8,882
1973	72	71.3	162.7	8,017
1974	61	79•5	150.4	7,989
TOTALS	466	520.1	951.0	34,225
	1.3%	3.0%	0.8%	

MED-EVAC TRANSPORTS - FIVE (5) YEAR ACCUMULATED TOTALS

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	TOTALS
SCENE	98	155	307	389	7188	1437
INTER- HOSPITAL	95 [.]	151	248	278	321	1093
BAFY	4	85	161	173	237	660
TOTALS	197	391	716	840	1051	3195
NUMBER SURVIVED PERCENT	173 88%	318 82%	564 79%	652 78%	835 80%	2542 80%

	×.		NUMBER MISSIONS	FLIGHT TIME	TOTAL TIME
,'1.0 1.1.1.1 1.1.5 1.2 1.4.2 1.4.3 1.4.4	TRANSPORTATION M/V Accident Other Accident Medicine/Serum VIF's Technical Other	Total	1 1 3 2 2 10	.1 .5 1.6 7.1 9.3 5.0 23.6	2.0 2.0 16.0 17.0 9.0 46.5
2.0 2.3.2 2.3.3 2.4.2 2.4.3	TRAFFIC Road & Traffic Conditions Abandon/Stolen vehicles Peak Hours Accident/disaster areas	Total	13 1 11 <u>1</u> 26	35.8 2.li 31.8 1.0 71.0	35.8 3.0 31.8 2.0 72.6
3.0 -3.1.2 3.2.2	SEARCH & RESCUE Other Other	Total	3 7 10	5.h 12.h 17.b	7.0 22.0 29.0
5.0 5.1.2 5.2.1 5.2.2 5.2.3	CRIME Tracking Civll disturbance Criminal Activity Recovery of Property	Total	1 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1.0 2.0 1.5 .8 5.3	1.0 8.0 4.0 1.0 14.0
6.0 6.1	SERVICE & TEST Craft	Total	1	1.0	2.0
7.0	TRAINING	Total	. 2	2.1	7.0
8.0	DEMONSTRATION .	Total	é	. 2.3	8.0
10.0 10.2	OTHER ACTIVITIES 'Refueling', A/C Maint., etc.	Total			66.7
11.0	ON CALL ·	Total	,		39.2
12.0 12.1	AIRCRAFT GROUNDED A/C down for maintenance	Total		 ,	27.0
	TOTAL FOR MARCH		56	123.1	312.0

The following Highway Safety project grants were applied for and approved by the Federal Department of Transportation. All projects were applied for under Public Law 89-564 Section 402(C) as 315 Police Traffic Services. At no time were funds obligated for more than one helicopter.

#1 Project PT 69-1-001

approval date: June 2, 1969

by: A. Bremmer, Acting Director, National Highway Safety Bureau

Funds obligated: \$307,191.00

Grant Period: July, 1969 to June, 1970 Project Period: July, 1969 to June, 1970

#2 Project PT 69-001 (003)

approval date: December 30, 1970

by: Frank D. Altobelli, Regional Director, National Highway

Safety Bureau

Funds obligated: \$352,991.00

Grant Period: January, 1971 to June, 1972 Project Period: July, 1969 to June, 1973

NOTE: This project suspended and not reinstated until June 25, 1971.

#3 Project PT 69-001 (004)

approval date: June 25, 1971

by: Charles L. Allwine, Acting Regional Administrator

Funds obligated: \$366,944.26

Grant Period: January, 1971 to June, 1972 Project Period: July, 1969 to June, 1973

#4 Project PT 72-1(A) REINSTATEMENT OF SUSPENDED FUNDS

approval date: November 24, 1971

by: Richard H. Turk, Acting Highway Safety Coordinator

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Funds obligated: \$66,246.74

Grant Period: July, 1971 to June, 1972 Project Period: July, 1969 to June, 1973

#5 Project PT 72-7 MONIES TO PURCHASE REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR ONE DESTROYED

IN CRASH ON JULY 3, 1971

approval date: November 23, 1971

by: Richard H.Turk, Acting Highway Safety Coordinator

Funds obligated: \$93,000.00

Grant Period: September 15, 1971 to June 30, 1972 Project Period: September 15, 1971 to June 30, 1972

Notice of cancellation of all helicopter projects delivered to this Division by Mr. Frank Norris for Donald G. Heene, Highway Safety Management Specialist, Federal Department of Transportation. The effective date of cancellation was July 12, 1972.

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TOTALS
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•	Missions	% of Missions	Time	Total	
Transportation (includes "Ned-Evac", blood,serum & organ relays, MSP and VIP flights)	7,677	22.5	4,077.2	5,873.0	
* VIP flights	994	1.3	520.1	0.156	
<pre>Traffic (routine & peak hour patrol, enforcement, motorist assist, special events)</pre>	21,030	61.5	10,119.8	10,439.9	
Search/Rescue	1,127	3.3	668.2	826.2	
Reconnaissance	139	4.	102.7	124.2	
Crime	2,524	7.4	1,456.4	1,802.8	
Service/Test	527	1.5	278.5	377.9	
Training	382	1:1	359.0	500.2	
Demonstrations	457	1.3	53.9	598 - 9	
Law Enforcement (Other)	96	£.	30.2	37.8	
Other Miscellaneous Activities	266	7.	68.0	55,095.8	
Aircraft On Call				18,430,8	
Aircraft Grounded					
Maintenance				20,906.8	
Weather				3,369.3	
No Crew				4,817.5	
TOTALS	34,225	100.0%	17,214.0	123,201.1	



VIP flights during the last five year period are as listed above in first category of transportation. These flights amounted to: 1.3% of total number of missions 3.0% of total flight time .8% of total time