

# HUEY UH-1H



## Huey Newsletter

11th February 2005



### 1972 Bell UH1H "Huey" G-UH1H – Tail No. 72-21509

Dear All

Many thanks for your recent interest in our Huey website. Due to the large number of enquiries we have received, it would be difficult to respond in person to them all, therefore we have put together a newsletter to let everyone know what the current situation is regarding the Bell UH1H Huey G-UH1H Tail No. 72-21509.

The project started in November 2003, with the complete restoration of the helicopter however, unknown to myself and my colleagues, but understandably since the September 11th disaster, the security surrounding the purchase of ex-military aircraft in the US has been tightened.

We thought importing a genuine UH1H from the US to fly on the air show circuit in UK was going to be a relatively simple task, but it has become much more complicated.

A number of individuals wanted to sell our organisation a helicopter, but did not want the responsibility of exporting the aircraft, and it has now become quite clear why.



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Thankfully one organisation came forward, who were willing to undertake the exporting for us. It has involved a lot of negotiations with the US Government regarding the use of the helicopter and its operation in the UK.

To obtaining permission just to export the machine, involved investigations into the operations of our company and myself personally. This included Customs and Excise, the US Embassy and the Department of Political and State Military Affairs and the approval from every Government Department in the US which operate Huey helicopters; Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Drug Enforcement Office, Fire Department, Coastguard and the National Guard. Each one of these departments had to approve the export of this machine. Do I have to say much more?

As of today the machine is finished, sat in a hangar ready for shipment, waiting for the last part of the jigsaw to fall into place. All the departments have agreed bar one. We are just waiting to hear from the Department of State and Military Affairs and expect news imminently.

It has been the most frustrating 16 months of my aviation career to date, and not a task to be taken lightly, or one that I will try again!

Keep visiting the site for news of the machine's release!



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