

# HUEY UH-1H



HUEY NEWSLETTER 19 July 2005

Dear All

Many thanks for all your emails and phone calls. It has been a great pleasure to hear from so many people and to receive so many encouraging comments about our project. We have had a lot of enquiries about the Huey and it has not been possible to reply to every one individually so hopefully this newsletter will answer all your questions. First of all we need to update you on the latest news.

A lot has happened since we sent our last newsletter out in February (if you didn't receive one we're sorry- we probably did not have your e-mail details then. You can read all the newsletters on the website, [www.huey.co.uk](http://www.huey.co.uk) just click on "welcome" then "latest news").

The machine has undergone a full restoration in Seattle USA and all the relevant US departments finally agreed to sign the dotted lines and put their rubber stamps on all the right forms, so we were granted the export license on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2005!

We would like to express our very special thanks to Brian Reynolds and Marvin Kottman. Without them none of this would have been possible.



Phil receives the long awaited export licence from Brian Reynolds

First take-off!!!!



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*Discovery Channel interviewing Steve Vermillion and Burl Dooley*

It was a great experience flying the old girl! It was also a great experience meeting Vietnam veterans Steve Vermillion, Burl Dooley, Ralph Chappell and others who flew in formation with us! You will have to watch the programme to find out more! We think the Huey is "The Greatest Ever" don't you!!

We were then contacted by Discovery Channel who were interested in filming the helicopter for a new TV series, "The Greatest Ever", currently being aired on Channel 5, Monday evenings. This series is about the greatest ever cars, planes helicopters etc. The helicopter episode has not yet been shown although it is imminent- sorry we do not know the exact date. Phil Connolly and Neil Airey flew over to Seattle to take part in the filming.



*Phil and Ralph*



*Neil, Phil Steve and Burl with "The Old Girl"*

Incidentally, Steve Vermillion is the author of "Dustoff" a great book about his experiences flying "Medivac" missions in Vietnam. You can purchase this from our on-line shop! This unexpected request therefore put the shipping of the machine on hold for a few more weeks. After flying her for 16 hours there were a few teething problems that the engineers had to iron out before we could start to organize moving her.



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We contacted a few shipping companies for their assistance with the export of the helicopter but due to its configuration and the lack of specialist moving equipment, further delays were encountered. Thankfully Eric Lucas of Panalpina Air Freight in Seattle together with Luxair Cargo stepped in to help. A date was set BUT, at the last minute, the US Government decided they were not happy with their documents and withdrew them! It was a huge disappointment. After many weeks of negotiations between the Department of State, Political and Military affairs an agreement was made and eventually the old girl was broken down in to pieces again and left the US on the 13<sup>th</sup> July in the hold of a 747! She arrived at London Helicopter Centre on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2005. We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to everyone who helped us bring our green monster home!



*A very happy Neil*



**UHIH- 72-21509**

We now need to reassemble and flight test the helicopter and go through the certification and approval with the CAA. We estimate that this will take approximately 3 weeks.

We have had a lot of enquiries from film makers, TV producers and air show organizers. Until we know the machine is certified to fly we cannot make any commitments to avoid disappointment. We are hoping to attend at least three air shows this year, please check the website for updates.

The huey on-line shop is now open for business! We are still sourcing quality products to sell, such as T-shirts, posters, stickers etc, but we already have a great selection of models, books, DVD, tie pins etc. We particularly like the hand-made wooden model! Please have a look and if you decide to buy anything you will find it is very easy and secure. Payment is made through Paypal and includes postage and packing and your order will be shipped to you within 24 hours.

We are constantly updating the website with further photos and info so please keep logging on for the latest news!

We will produce another newsletter as soon as we have full CAA approval and certification when we will be able to confirm where UH-1H 72-21509 will be appearing.

Thank you for the interest you have shown and we hope to update you further within the next month.

From everyone at [www.huey.co.uk](http://www.huey.co.uk)



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