

HIB Number: 000717

Date/Time
Transmitted: 01/10/20 10 16:27

Subject: TIGER ARMED RECONNIASANCE HELICOPTER LANDING IN EMERALD
DUE TO A GEARBOX FAULT INDICATION

Comment:
Action Area CEO-DMO

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION - NOT TO BE FORWARDED

**ISSUE: TIGER ARMED RECONNIASANCE
HELICOPTER LANDING IN EMERALD DUE TO A
GEARBOX FAULT INDICATION**

SENSITIVITY: Tiger Armed Reconnaissance helicopters are currently topical as their deployment to Afghanistan has been suggested by the Shadow Minister for Defence. The unplanned diversion of a Tiger to Emerald may attract further media attention to the aircraft's capabilities.

KEY ISSUES:

- A new Tiger Armed Reconnaissance helicopter was being flown from the production facility in Brisbane to Exercise Hamel in Townsville on 1 October 2010 when it experienced an indication of a fault with the main gearbox.
- The aircraft was safely recovered to Emerald Airport. It is expected that the aircraft will leave Emerald on 5 October 2010 following action by a maintenance recovery team.

- Fault indications of this kind are not unusual with new helicopter gearboxes and do not represent an unsafe condition when handled appropriately.

Contact Officer:	LTCOL Perren	W: 07 3637 3797	M:	
Authorised by:	BRIG Crocombe	W: 07 3332 2518	M:	

BACKGROUND:

The incident Tiger Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter (ARH18) suffered a related gearbox fault indication a few days earlier. The fault relates to the onboard systems identifying the possibility of a chip in the main gearbox. Rectification is usually accomplished by flushing the gearbox oil system and replacing with new oil.

TALKING POINTS

- A new Tiger Armed Reconnaissance helicopter was being flown from the production facility in Brisbane to Exercise Hamel in Townsville on 1 October 2010 when it experienced an indication of a fault with the main gearbox.
- The aircraft was safely recovered to Emerald Airport. It is expected that the aircraft will leave Emerald on 5 October 2010 following action by a maintenance recovery team.
- Fault indications of this kind are not unusual with new helicopter gearboxes and do not represent an unsafe condition when handled appropriately.

Contact Officer:	LTCOL Perren	W: 07 3637 3797	M: [REDACTED]
Authorised by:	BRIG Crocombe	W: 07 3332 2518	M: [REDACTED]
PA Clearance by:	Rod Dudfield	W: (02) 6127 1951	M: [REDACTED]