

Hot Issue Brief Tracking System

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Subject: BLACK HAWK PRECAUTIONARY LANDING AT KOKODA UPDATE
Comment:
Group: ARMY

BLACK HAWK PRECAUTIONARY LANDING AT KOKODA UPDATE

NATURE OF THE INCIDENT:

- A Black Hawk conducted a precautionary landing at Kokoda Airstrip in Papua New Guinea.
- Army has suspended non-essential tasking of the Black Hawk fleet.

THE DATE AND TIME OF THE INCIDENT:

- At approximately 0810h (AEST) on Tuesday 24 April 2012, a Black Hawk conducted a precautionary landing at Kokoda Airstrip.
- One of the two engines on the aircraft had an engine fault but was able to fly to Kokoda Airstrip on the remaining engine.
- The crew safely landed the aircraft in accordance with normal safety procedures for an engine fault.
- The Black Hawk is supporting ANZAC Day activities on the Kokoda Track.
- At this time there is insufficient information for Defence to make a decision on whether to ground the Black Hawk fleet or continue normal operations.
- For safety reasons, Defence has decided to suspend non-essential tasking of the Black Hawk fleet.

ACTIONS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY:

- Army is looking to conduct a full technical inspection which will confirm the cause of the engine fault.
- Army has contracted a civilian helicopter to support ANZAC Day activities on the Kokoda track.

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