

Helicopters for Rank Beginners

ie: Helicopters 101

Part 3

XHeli.com should be in love with me by now because I've placed my third or maybe it's the fourth order for helicopter parts with them. More shafts, Top Blades, Rear Rotor Blades, Bearings, Tail Booms, Tail Assemblies, and Top Rotor assemblies. This is starting to get expensive and I don't seem to be learning a single thing so far. Just the other day for example, I had the helicopter spooling up in the street in front of the house and it sounded funny, so I stopped it and checked all the bolts and stuff. Everything seemed to be right so I gave it throttle and as I was about to lift off of the ground %Sprang, #%Thwock, the Top rotor blades took off in two different directions with both of them winding up about 60 or 70 feet away in driveways on opposite sides of the street. Fortunately no one was in the path of the blades as they took off but it could have been bad as I had a couple of the neighbors out watching my foray into helicopter madness.

Oh Yea, I recovered most of it except (wait for it) the bearings. Hello XHeli.com, I'm back. This is starting to get ridiculous, but, I replaced the bearings, and the blades (damaged of course) and the screws (complete with lock tight) again and was able to take it out to the field for another go at it. (It's a miracle) I put a whole battery through it and didn't crash it. (I was all over the runway) but I didn't crash it. So I took it home. I did notice that the top blades were loose again. (Does Lock Tight Really Work?) Tightened them up and was able to take it out to the field on March 3rd and flew it after the work party. Guess what? Thirty (maybe 45) seconds of flight and (you guessed it) "CRASH" Now what the heck happened between this time and the last time? I'm just about to the point that I'm going to let someone else have a go at this thing and see if it's me or this crazy Helicopter.

So back home again I go. I still have several spare parts in the various boxes of parts that I have ordered so I'll put it back together again and see what happens.

Frank Mattox