24 MARCH 2011

From: Director, Navy Office of Commemorations, NHHC (Code 500)
To: Commander, Naval Air Forces (Code N00)

Subj: BIRTHDAY OF NAVY HELICOPTER AVIATION

Ref: (1) NHHCINST 3120.3


1. **Purpose:** Establish the official birth date of Navy helicopter aviation.

2. **Background:**

   a. In order to commemorate the anniversary of the birth of Navy helicopter aviation, an official date is required to be designated.

   b. Other communities within the Navy, such as Naval Aviation and the Submarine Force, recognize the first vehicle accepted into the inventory as their specific birth date.

   c. According to enclosure (1), the first helicopter accepted into Navy inventory occurred on 16 October, 1943.

3. **Action:** In accordance with reference (1) and in keeping with the tradition set by other communities, Navy History and Heritage Command, Office of Commemorations designates 16 October, 1943 as the official birth date of Navy helicopter aviation.

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