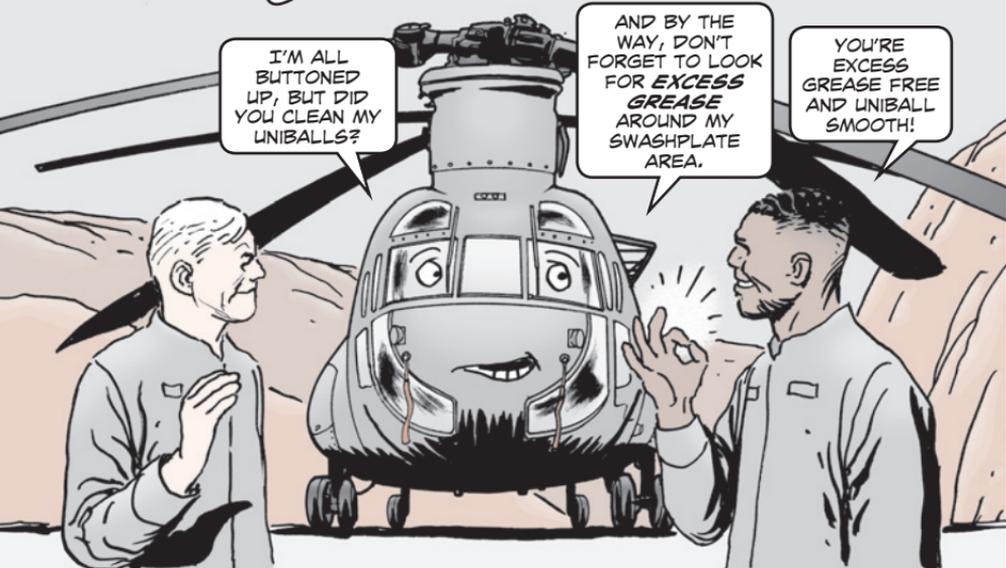


# Dirty Uniballs Won't Last



**M**echanics, sand is unforgiving and relentless when it attacks aircraft components.

You can avoid premature wear and tear of your Chinook swashplates and forward and aft uniball surfaces by wiping off dirt and excess grease. Inspect, clean and repair them like it says in IETM 1-1520-240-23&P.

Keeping the swashplates free of excess grease and the uniball surfaces clean as a whistle prevents friction that can lock up the flight controls. Locked controls spell curtains and could put your bird in harm's way with the ground.

So take it easy when you grease the swashplates. If excess grease gets on the uniballs it acts like a magnet for dirt, grit and sand, which can scratch, nick, or pit. This leads to uniball friction, binding and failure.

The bottom line: clean, smooth uniballs last longer than dirty ones. You'll be replacing them often if you don't service the uniballs more often in the desert.

