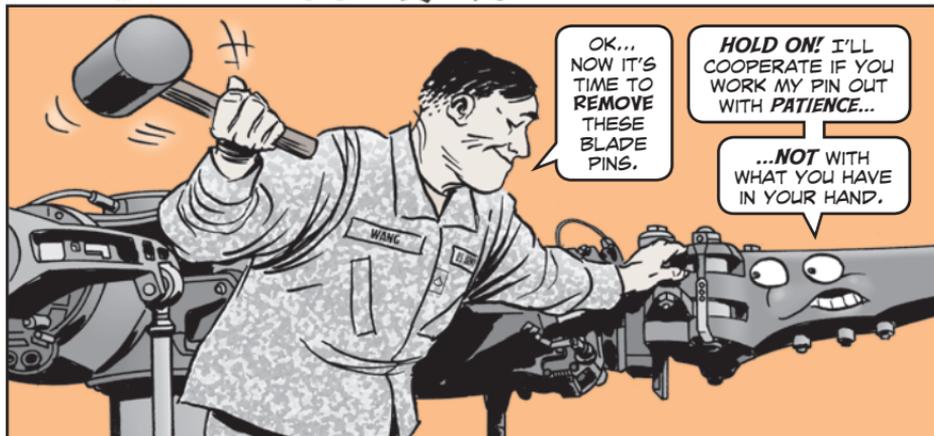


BANGIN' on Blade Pins



At times, Black Hawk blade pins have to be removed, replaced or reinstalled.

When trying to remove a pin, don't get frustrated and start beating on blade pins to get them out.

Always remember that rotor blades should be repositioned to slide the pin out of the blade cuff. Removing the blade pins requires lifting the blade to relieve tension. But sometimes you may have to lead, lag, or even lower the blade to get the stubborn pin out. This applies to both the traditional expandable pin and the new solid blade pins. That's the easy part.

Now the hard part. Sometimes blade pins are a challenge to remove, so you'll have to keep adjusting the blade to work the pin out. It doesn't take much to get a blade pin stuck. If that happens, there's a tendency to want to pound or hammer the pin out.

Pounding or hammering out blade pins can damage the blade pin and unseat the bushings in the blade cuff.

With a little effort and some patience, the blade pin should slide out without the use of a mallet or hammer. If the pins do get stuck, call your senior mechanic and check your TM for the details on dealing with stuck pins.

