

ComancheZOOM for Sept 16, 2021

Topic: Comanche hard to find parts - part 4
with CJ Stumpf and Pete Morse

This ComancheZOOM is part 4 of a continuing series on hard-to-find Comanche parts. This Zoom was to report the final list and priorities but got sidetracked in a good way.

First up was a discussion of a source of new hard engine baffles. These can be made as exact replacement parts, powder coated black, with the felt or reinforced silicone material added. We are working on a tiered group buy (5, 10, 15) for front (L+R) or side baffles.

Next we talked about welding the cracks ** in a strut housing. There was a lively discussion among several members with engineering and/or machine shop backgrounds as to the proper method and strength of these repairs. General consensus was that the repair was doable.

The discussion then led on to the possible manufacture of new strut housings and trunnions. This whole engineering discussion was met with great enthusiasm and is scheduled to continue in a future ComancheZOOM. Stay tuned!

CJ Stumpf also updated us on the progress of our various other group buys, all of which are getting much more attention than earlier expected.

As before, a number of sources and contact info were added to the Chat window.

** N.B. During the Zoom it was stated that aluminum could be welded with no deleterious effects. This is not altogether true. Greg Piehl, M.E. with Impact Precision Products and former avionics engineer with Raytheon, provided the correction that forged aluminum, because of its higher density, can be welded, but that cast aluminum should not be. He also shared that you can Tig weld forged aluminum parts, but that Mig welding should not be used on the strut housing because of inadequate penetration and heat distortion.

To view/hear this Zoom's recording, go to:

- <http://meetings.northeastcomanche.org/zoom/2021-09-16/video.mp4>
- <http://meetings.northeastcomanche.org/zoom/2021-09-16/audio.m4a>

To view the text of the Chat window, go to:

- <http://meetings.northeastcomanche.org/zoom/2021-09-16/Chat.txt>

Pete Morse for the ComancheZOOM team