
From: Murray Lee
Sent: September 27, 2007 12:38 PM
To: Colin Kenny : SEN
Subject: Griffons in Afghanistan

Senator

I read with interest your column in the Ottawa Citizen on the Griffon solution to aviation airlift in theatre. As a previous CO of a Tac Hel Sqn, I speak from experience by stating that the loads a tactical helicopter can carry with fully equipped combat infantrymen varies on the temperature and altitude of the operation at hand. The Kandahar region is at high altitude and the temperature often reaches up to 45C and beyond at certain times of the year.

Although I agree with your statement that helicopters are needed now, the Griffon is not the platform for operations in that theatre. They would at best, be available some of the time, carry fewer loads than that operationally planned and become a maintenance nightmare in the sandy conditions.

Just a comment.

Murray Lee, Colonel (Retired)

President

Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

From: Colin Kenny
Sent: October-24-07 7:08 PM
To: Murray Lee
Subject: RE: Griffons in Afghanistan

And a very good comment indeed.

I agree with everything you say but, unfortunately the Chinooks won't be available until 2012 at the earliest and Griffons are all we have.

Cheers,

Colin Kenny