NOTE CLN THIS MESSAGE HAS NOT, REPEAT NOT, BEEN TRANSMITTED TO UNITS SUBORDINATE TO ADDRESSEES. ADDRESSEES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DISSEMINATION OF MESSAGE TO ALL SUBORDINATE UNITS, ACTIVITIES, ELEMENTS, OR FOREIGN USERS AFFECTED OR CONCERNED. RETRANSMITTAL SHALL REFERENCE THIS MESSAGE.

SUBJECT: CLN MAINTENANCE ADVISORY MESSAGE ON MAINTENANCE OF AIRCRAFT NICKEL-Cadmium BATTERIES (GEN-76-28)

A. ECOM DRSEL-MA-DT MSG R11438Z NOV 76, SUBJECT SAME AS ABOVE;
   1. ECOM REPORTS THAT THERE HAS BEEN A PROLIFERATION OF REFLEX CHARGERS IN THE MILITARY TO MEET URGENT NICKEL-Cadmium BATTERY MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS; NUMBEROUS QUERIES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

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REGARDING THE NEED FOR PERFORMING THE CELL BALANCING AND DEEP DISCHARGE WHEN CHARGING BATTERIES USING THE REFLEX CHARGER;

2. COMPLETE ELIMINATION OF CELL UNBALANCE BY USE OF THE REFLEX CHARGER HAS NOT BEEN SUBSTANTIATED, IT IS MANDATORY THAT ALL AIRCRAFT NICKEL-Cadmium BATTERIES BE MAINTAINED EVERY 100 FLIGHT-HOURS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN TM 1-140-203-15-2, C3 INCLUDING ELECTRICAL LEAKAGE; DEEP DISCHARGE AND CELL BALANCING AND CAPACITY CHECK, FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAN RESULT IN PREMATURE BATTERY FAILURES;

3. THERMAL RUNAWAY AND POSSIBLE SAFETY-IN-FLIGHT PROBLEMS DUE TO EXCESSIVE HEAT AND EVENTUAL BATTERY DESTRUCTION;

3. POINT OF CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CLN MR; ART FRINK; USAECOM DRSEL-MA-DT, AUTOCOM 992-1389/1315;