



Equip Tips

5700
JANUARY 1977

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE — FOREST SERVICE EQUIPMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTER — SAN DIMAS, CALIFORNIA



the SPH-4 flight helmet

The Forest Service has long been aware of the need to provide the best head protection for aircrews involved in low-level flight missions. This protective headgear is a must not only for pilots and crewmen but also for passengers and firefighting personnel being transported by helicopter. The choice of headgear involves the consideration of head protection, hearing protection, and quality radio communications (headset and microphone). The ideal flight helmet should provide protection from the following:

1. Impacts to the head
2. Hearing loss
3. Thermal radiation (burns)
4. Wind blast to face and eyes
5. Sunlight and glare in the eyes.

Additional selection criteria include a helmet's adaptability to a variety of avionics and how comfortable it is to wear. To be comfortable, the helmet should be lightweight, have adequate fitting adjustments, and provide ample ventilation.

The SPH-4 Flight Helmet has an acceptable balance of the above qualities. It is of military origin ("Standard A" for the U. S. Army helicopter pilot), yet it is available from both civilian and military sources. This helmet is constructed in accordance with Military Specification MIL-H-43925; **HELMET, FLYER'S, PROTECTIVE, SPH-4**. Be sure to protect and care for this helmet as indicated in the inside back cover of the instruction manual supplied with the SPH-4.

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT HAS BEEN DEVELOPED FOR THE GUIDANCE OF EMPLOYEES OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOREST SERVICE, ITS CONTRACTORS, AND ITS COOPERATING FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES. THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INTERPRETATION OR USE OF THIS INFORMATION BY OTHER THAN ITS OWN EMPLOYEES.

THE USE OF TRADE, FIRM, OR CORPORATION NAMES IS FOR THE INFORMATION AND CONVENIENCE OF THE READER. SUCH USE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFICIAL EVALUATION, CONCLUSION, RECOMMENDATION, ENDORSEMENT, OR APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT OR SERVICE TO THE EXCLUSION OF OTHERS WHICH MAY BE SUITABLE.

HOW TO ORDER THE SPH-4
(Information current as of January 1977)

Directly from Manufacturer

Gentex Corporation
Carbondale, Pa. 18407
Phone: (717) 282-3550, ext. 165 or 172

Helmet without Avionics

<u>Item</u>	<u>Part No.</u>	<u>Federal Stock No.</u> ^{2/}	<u>Cost</u>
SPH-4 Helmet, Regular ^{1/}	69H-2030-1	NSN 8415-00-144-4981	\$155.00
SPH-4 Helmet, X-Large ^{1/}	69H-2030-2	NSN 8415-00-144-4985	155.00
Helmet Bag	70D-2207	NSN 8415-00-782-2989	40.00

Helmet with Avionics

In addition to above, specify the following for Forest Service use:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
H 143 Receiver (300 ohms)	2
M 6A/UR Microphone and boom	1
SPH-4 Cord set connected in series with U-75/U plug	1

The cost for these items, including their installation, is \$93.60. Thus, the total cost of a helmet with the appropriate avionics is \$248.60.

Directly from the Government

Defense Personnel Support Center
Requisitioning Processing Section
2800 South 20th Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19145
Phones: (215) 271-3181 (for inquiries)
(215) 271-2013 (concerning orders) ^{3/}

<u>Item</u>	<u>Federal Stock No.</u>	<u>Cost</u>
SPH-4 Helmet, Regular ^{4/}	NSN 8415-00-144-4981	\$170.00 (incl. Military Avionics)
SPH-4 Helmet, X-Large ^{4/}	NSN 8415-00-144-4985	170.00 (incl. Military Avionics)
Bag, Flyer's Helmet	NSN 8415-00-782-2989	9.15

These helmets come with standard U.S. Army avionics, i.e., M 87 dynamic microphone with low-impedence receivers. To adapt this to Forest Service use, you must obtain the following (or equivalent):

<u>Source</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Part No.</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Carter Engineering Co., Inc. 232 South Glasgow Avenue Inglewood, Calif. 90301 Phone: (213) 649-0111	Adapter	CE 394 TRH	\$55.00

Thus, the total cost of a helmet ordered from the Government with the appropriate avionics and adapted to Forest Service use is \$225.00.

- ^{1/} White or olive—specify color.
- ^{2/} Provided for reference only.
- ^{3/} Place initial orders by mail; telephone only for follow-up.
- ^{4/} Olive color only.