

AIRBORNE MISSILE LAUNCHER (LAU-138) ACTIVE  
AIRBORNE WEAPONS CORRECTIVE ACTION PROGRAM

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**NOTE:** OPEN problems denoted by asterisk (\*) following problem number.

30-NOV-01

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PROBLEM NO: 16397 CLOSED

END ITEM : NOMENCLATURE PART/DOC. NO. FSC NIIN NALC  
LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE 3494AS100 1440 01-458-4630

EI CNTRL NO: 98-0024

PROB BRIEF : LAU-138; EXCESSIVE CORROSION

PROBLEM : During extended deployment excessive corrosion was noted on launcher.  
DESCRIPTION

PREVENTIVE : Continue to inspect launchers for corrosion in accordance with  
ACTION NAVAIR 11-75-84.

CORRECTIVE : Corroded parts will be repaired/replaced under warranty.  
ACTION

	SOURCE	TYPE	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	DR STATUS
OCCURRENCES:	NAS OCEANA AIMD	CODR/EIR	N44327-00-0110	01SEP00	CLOSED *
	NAS OCEANA AIMD	CODR	N44327-99-0018	05APR99	CLOSED
	VF-2	CODR/EIR	R09113-97-0047	15JAN98	CLOSED *

\* ACTION REPORTED IN PREVIOUS PUBLICATION

ACTION : NAS OCEANA AIMD CODR N44327-99-0018 05APR99 CLOSED

	PART/DOC. NO.	FSC	NIIN	NALC
END ITEM :	3494AS100	1440	01-458-4630	
NOMEN:	LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE			
S/N:	UNK			
FAILED PART:	3494AS200			
NOMEN:	NOSE SECTION			

DESCRIPTION:

During disassembly of LAU-138A/A nitrogen receivers in preparation for five year inspection, technician discovered severe corrosion on LAU-138A/A nitrogen receivers and attaching parts.

ACTION TAKEN:

09APR99: Ship two nose assembly's to RTSC for continuing corrosion engineering investigation. Upon receipt of engineering investigation exhibits, RTSC will conduct investigation and advise all concerned of results.

01JUN00: LAU-138 Engineering Change Proposal 0000001R1 corrects problem. NAS Oceana AIMD's participation in AWCAP is greatly appreciated. Closing action.

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PROBLEM NO: 16397

(Continued)

ACTION	: ACTIVITY/CODE	ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE	STATUS
SUMMARY	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO	INVESTIGATE		COMPLETE 01JUN00

REFERENCES	: IDENTIFICATION	REFERENCE BRIEF
	NAS OCEANA AIMD MESSAGE 051300ZAPR99	PROBLEM REPORTED
	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE 090937ZAPR99	INTERIM RESPONSE
	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO CFA REVIEW 01JUN00	PROBLEM CLOSING

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AIRBORNE MISSILE LAUNCHER (LAU-138) ACTIVE  
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PROBLEM NO: 16543

OPEN

	NOMENCLATURE	PART/DOC. NO.	FSC	NIIN	NALC
END ITEM :	LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE	3494AS100	1440	01-458-4630	

EI CNTRL NO:

PROB BRIEF : LAU-138; PRESSURE PLATE FOR BOLS CHAFF OVERRIDES STOP.

PROBLEM : Pressure plate was overriding plunger stop.  
DESCRIPTION

PREVENTIVE : None determined.  
ACTION

CORRECTIVE : None determined.  
ACTION

	SOURCE	TYPE	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	DR STATUS
OCCURRENCES:	VF-11	CODR	V09560-01-0028	28AUG01	CLOSED
	VF-154	CODR/EIR	R09678-99-0012	18APR99	OPEN
ACTION :	VF-11	CODR	V09560-01-0028	28AUG01	CLOSED

	PART/DOC. NO.	FSC	NIIN	NALC
END ITEM :	3494AS100	1440	01-458-4630	
	NOMEN: LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE			
	S/N: 0019			
SUB-ASSY :	3494AS300			
	NOMEN: CENTER SECTION, LAUNCHER			
FAILED PART:	RP693926	3030	01-434-2797	
	NOMEN: BELT, POSITIVE DRIVE			

DESCRIPTION:

Integrated weapons team was performing BOLS chaff release and control checks. Station 1A LAU-138 checked good. During check of station 8A, the plunger/pressure plate over-rode the plunger stop causing metal belt (band) to break. Removed LAU-138B/A and turned into Oceana AIMD.

ACTION TAKEN:

06SEP01: Request ship exhibit to FST for investigation.  
13SEP01: Aircraft Armament Bulletin (AAB) to correct problem is currently in process. VF-11's participation in AWCAP is greatly appreciated. Closing action.

ACTION SUMMARY	ACTIVITY/CODE	ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE	STATUS
	RTSC	INVESTIGATE		COMPLETE 13SEP01
	INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO			

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PROBLEM NO: 16543

(Continued)

<b>REFERENCES :</b>	<b>IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>REFERENCE BRIEF</b>
	VF-11 MESSAGE 281414ZAUG01	PROBLEM REPORTED
	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE 061241ZSEP01	INITIAL RESPONSE
	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE 130824ZSEP01	FINAL RESPONSE

<b>ACTION :</b>	<b>VF-154</b>	<b>CODR/EIR R09678-99-0012</b>	<b>18APR99 OPEN</b>
	<b>END ITEM :</b>	<b>PART/DOC. NO.</b>	<b>FSC NIIN NALC</b>
		3494AS100	1440 01-458-4630
		<b>NOMEN:</b> LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE	
		<b>S/N:</b> 601141	
	<b>FAILED PART:</b>	RP693880	2530 01-457-9042
		<b>NOMEN:</b> PRESSURE PLATE, TENSION	

**DESCRIPTION:**

During aircraft preparation inspection (F-14A BUNO 162610) ordnance load crew discovered pressure plate was overriding plunger stop. Further inspection and testing of all LAU-138A/A launchers installed revealed five additional aircraft with same discrepancy. Launcher was removed and turned into CV-63 AIMD for bench testing in accordance with technical manual. Using the common rack and launcher test set, AIMD performed test on launcher. Launcher pressure plate did not override the plunger stop during this test procedure. Recommend engineering investigation be performed on launcher and test set procedures.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

27APR99: Ship subject launcher to RTSC for Engineering Investigation. Upon receipt of subject LAU-138A/A, RTSC will conduct investigation and advise results.  
02MAY99: Shipped LAU-138A/A (P/N 3494AS100) S/N 601141 to RTSC Indianapolis.  
01SEP00: CFA Review - Investigation ongoing.

<b>ACTION :</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/CODE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>DUE DATE STATUS</b>
<b>SUMMARY</b>	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO	INVESTIGATE	20JUL99 OPEN

<b>REFERENCES :</b>	<b>IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>REFERENCE BRIEF</b>
	VF-154 MESSAGE 181234ZAPR99	PROBLEM REPORTED
	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE 271349ZAPR99	INITIAL RESPONSE
	VF-154 MESSAGE 020359ZMAY99	SHIPPING STATUS
	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO CFA REVIEW 01SEP00	REPORT REVIEW

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PROBLEM NO: 16557

OPEN

	NOMENCLATURE	PART/DOC. NO.	FSC	NIIN	NALC
END ITEM :	LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE	3494AS100	1440	01-458-4630	

EI CNTRL NO:

PROB BRIEF : LAU-138; DECOY DISPENSER BANDS BROKEN

PROBLEM : Decoy Dispenser Bands found broken during daily inspection by  
DESCRIPTION ordnance ground crew.

PREVENTIVE : None determined.  
ACTION

CORRECTIVE : Replace metal bands and return launchers to service.  
ACTION

	SOURCE	TYPE	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	DR STATUS
OCCURRENCES:	VF-154	CODR	R09678-01-0008	03MAY01	CLOSED
	VF-154	CODR	R09678-01-0012	03MAY01	CLOSED
	VF-154	CODR	R09678-01-0005	30MAR01	CLOSED
	VF-32	CODR	V09053-01-0012	18MAR01	OPEN
	VF-14	CODR	V09084-00-0025	03JAN01	OPEN
	VF-213	CODR/EIR	R09934-99-0017	14JUN99	CLOSED *

\* ACTION REPORTED IN PREVIOUS PUBLICATION

ACTION : VF-154 CODR R09678-01-0008 03MAY01 CLOSED

	PART/DOC. NO.	FSC	NIIN	NALC
END ITEM :	3494AS100	1440	01-458-4630	
	NOMEN: LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE			
	S/N: UNKNOWN			
SUB-ASSY :	RP693960	5865	01-434-2935	
	NOMEN: CHAFF SET			
FAILED PART:	RP693926	3030	01-434-2797	
	NOMEN: BELT, POSITIVE DRIVE			

DESCRIPTION:

Maintenance man discovered broken BOL chaff rotary band on station 8A. Chaff expended without problems during training flight. This is the second problem concerning BOL chaff rotary bands for this command within the last two months. LAU-138 held at CV-63 AIMD. AIMD has capability to facilitate repairs. Request CFA provide authorization to CV-63 AIMD to order parts to complete repairs. Provide AWCAP or problem tracking number in CFA response. CFA previously stated that this is a known problem and is currently investigating the possible cause. CDI from this command believes band is being broken by rotary band advance gear mechanism. Believed

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**PROBLEM NO: 16557**

**(Continued)**

that gear mechanism becomes out of tolerance over repeated usage and causes cracks, nicks or chamfers in rotary band over time. Suggest that I-level inspect band during required intervals for damage and remove and replace as required. Additionally, request CFA grant I-level authority to correct future problems as they occur without CFA approval. P/N is provided technical manual. This will expedite repairs. CODR's will be generated as problems occur for tracking purposes. CFA response required.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

09MAY01: Replace metal belts and return launchers to service. Six incidents of broken metal belts have been reported which accounts for ongoing CFA metal belt investigation and maintenance philosophy review. CFA authorization is not required to replace metal belts at I-level. CODR's should be generated when any future broken belts are found at O-level. Ensure comply with current maintenance procedures that require belt inspection during yearly I-level maintenance, in accordance with technical manual WP 008 00. VF-154's participation in AWCAP is greatly appreciated. Closing action.

<b>ACTION SUMMARY :</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/CODE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO	CLOSE PROBLEM		COMPLETE 09MAY01

<b>REFERENCES :</b>	<b>IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>REFERENCE BRIEF</b>
	VF-154 MESSAGE 030600ZMAY01	PROBLEM REPORTED
	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE 091238ZMAY01	PROBLEM CLOSING

<b>ACTION :</b>	<b>VF-154</b>	<b>CODR</b>	<b>R09678-01-0012</b>	<b>03MAY01</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>END ITEM :</b>	<b>PART/DOC. NO.</b>	<b>FSC</b>	<b>NIIN</b>	<b>NALC</b>	
	3494AS100	1440	01-458-4630		
	<b>NOMEN: LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE</b>				
	<b>S/N: 589420</b>				
<b>SUB-ASSY :</b>	<b>RP693960</b>	<b>5865</b>	<b>01-434-2935</b>		
	<b>NOMEN: CHAFF SET</b>				
<b>FAILED PART:</b>	<b>RP693926</b>	<b>3030</b>	<b>01-434-2797</b>		
	<b>NOMEN: BELT, POSITIVE DRIVE</b>				

**DESCRIPTION:**

Maintenance man discovered broken BOL chaff rotary band on F-14A aircraft station 8A. Chaff expended without problems during training flight. This is the third problem concerning BOL chaff rotary bands for this command within the last two months. CFA response required. LAU-138 held at CV-63 AIMD. AIMD has capability to facilitate repairs. Request CFA provide authorization to CV-63 AIMD to order parts to complete repairs. CFA previously stated this is a known

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**PROBLEM NO: 16557**

**(Continued)**

problem and is currently investigating the possible cause. Squadron weapons officer directed one time inspection of LAU-138s at this command to check for signs of future failure. Supplemental message to follow. Believed that gear mechanism becomes out of tolerance over repeated usage and causes cracks, nicks or chamfers in rotary band after repeated usage. This is a forward deployed squadron that frequently employs BOL chaff. Request CFA direct all end users to perform a one-time inspection of assets on hand using inspection criteria: Check rotary band for cracks, nicks, chamfers or hole elongation, and remove/replace defective bands. Request CFA to direct I-level maintenance departments to check all assets held in K-Pool within 20 days of CFA response by using the same inspection criteria noted above.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

09MAY01: Maintenance man performed a one time inspection of all LAU-138 using inspection criteria in technical manual. Two additional LAU-138s had defective bands which would break within the next few hours of usage. This is the fourth and fifth problem concerning BOL chaff rotary bands for this command within the last two months. LAU-138 held at CV-63 AIMD. AIMD has capability to facilitate repairs. Request CFA provide authorization to CV-63 AIMD to order parts to complete repairs. CFA previously stated this is a known problem and is currently investigating the possible cause. This command believes that the band should be made of stronger tensile strength steel to prevent breakage. Request CFA to expedite investigation. CFA response required.

09MAY01: Replace metal belts and return launchers to service. Six incidents of broken metal belts have been reported which accounts for ongoing CFA metal belt investigation and maintenance philosophy review. CFA authorization is not required to replace metal belts at I-level. CODR's should be generated when any future broken belts are found at O-level. Ensure comply with current maintenance procedures that require belt inspection during yearly I-level maintenance, in accordance with technical manual WP 008 00. VF-154's participation in AWCAP is greatly appreciated. Closing action.

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/CODE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
<b>SUMMARY</b>		RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCCO	CLOSE PROBLEM		COMPLETE 09MAY01

<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>REFERENCE BRIEF</b>
		VF-154 MESSAGE 031600ZMAY01	PROBLEM REPORTED
		RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCCO MESSAGE 091238ZMAY01	FINAL RESPONSE
		VF-154 MESSAGE 090800ZMAY01	FOLLOW-UP TO PROBLEM REPORTED

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PROBLEM NO: 16557

(Continued)

ACTION : VF-154 CODR R09678-01-0005 30MAR01 CLOSED

	PART/DOC. NO.	FSC	NIIN	NALC
END ITEM :	3494AS100	1440	01-458-4630	
	NOMEN: LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE			
	S/N: UNKNOWN			
SUB-ASSY :	RP693960	5865	01-434-2935	
	NOMEN: CHAFF SET			
FAILED PART:	RP693926	3030	01-434-2797	
	NOMEN: BELT, POSITIVE DRIVE			

DESCRIPTION:

Team member proceeded to download BOL chaff. BOL chaff would not download because of a broken BOL chaff rotary band. Quality Assurance Safety Observer and weapons officer used alternate method to down load remaining BOL chaff by cutting band to facilitate download. Launcher was removed and turned into USS Kitty Hawk AIMD for rework. CFA response required. LAU-138 is being held at CV-63 AIMD.

ACTION TAKEN:

04APR01: Broken BOL chaff metal belt problem has been previously reported and is currently under investigation. Request replace metal belts and return launcher to service. VF-154's participation in AWCAP is greatly appreciated. Closing action.

ACTION SUMMARY	ACTIVITY/CODE	ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE	STATUS
	RTSC	CLOSE PROBLEM		COMPLETE 04APR01
	INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO			

REFERENCES	IDENTIFICATION	REFERENCE BRIEF
	VF-154 MESSAGE 300800ZMAR01	PROBLEM REPORTED
	RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE 040934ZAPR01	PROBLEM CLOSING

ACTION : VF-32 CODR V09053-01-0012 18MAR01 OPEN

	PART/DOC. NO.	FSC	NIIN	NALC
END ITEM :	3494AS100	1440	01-458-4630	
	NOMEN: LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE			
	S/N: UNKNOWN			
SUB-ASSY :	RP693960	5865	01-434-2935	
	NOMEN: CHAFF SET			
FAILED PART:	RP693926	3030	01-434-2797	
	NOMEN: BELT, POSITIVE DRIVE			

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**PROBLEM NO: 16557**

**(Continued)**

**DESCRIPTION:**

During F-14B aircraft launch on catapult 3, station 8A expended all 160 rounds of BOL chaff on deck. After aircraft recovery, post flight inspection revealed that the chaff dispensing track had broken, releasing all 160 rounds of chaff. CFA response requested. Launcher turned into USS Harry S Truman AIMD.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

03APR01: Ship launcher to RTSC Indianapolis for investigation/upgrade to LAU-138B/A. Upon receipt of subject LAU-138, RTSC will conduct investigation and advise all concerned of results.

<b>ACTION SUMMARY</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/CODE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
		RTSC	INVESTIGATE	23JUN01	OPEN
		INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCCO			

<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>REFERENCE BRIEF</b>
		VF-32 MESSAGE 181230ZMAR01	PROBLEM REPORTED
		RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCCO MESSAGE	INITIAL RESPONSE
		030540ZAPR01	

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>VF-14</b>	<b>CODR</b>	<b>V09084-00-0025</b>	<b>03JAN01</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
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		<b>PART/DOC. NO.</b>	<b>FSC</b>	<b>NIIN</b>	<b>NALC</b>
<b>END ITEM</b>	<b>:</b>	3494AS100	1440	01-458-4630	
		<b>NOMEN:</b> LAUNCHER, GUIDED MISSILE			
		<b>S/N:</b> 589474			
<b>SUB-ASSY</b>	<b>:</b>	RP693960	5865	01-434-2935	
		<b>NOMEN:</b> CHAFF SET			
<b>FAILED PART:</b>		RP693926	3030	01-434-2797	
		<b>NOMEN:</b> BELT, POSITIVE DRIVE			

**DESCRIPTION:**

While conducting a daily inspection on the aircraft, ordnance team member found that the BOLS Chaff strap inside the LAU-138 was broken on the upper and lower ends of strap. Removed LAU-138 from aircraft and turned into NAS Oceana AIMD. No CFA response required.

**ACTION TAKEN:**

04JAN01: Request ship subject launcher to RTSC Indianapolis for engineering investigation. Upon receipt of subject LAU-138, RTSC will conduct investigate and advise all concerned of results.  
22JAN01: Launcher serial number 589-474 arrived at RTSC Indianapolis.

<b>ACTION SUMMARY</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/CODE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
		RTSC	INVESTIGATE	04APR01	OPEN
		INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCCO			

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PROBLEM NO: 16557

(Continued) |

REFERENCES : IDENTIFICATION

VF-14 MESSAGE 031536ZJAN01  
RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE  
041200ZJAN01  
RTSC INDIANAPOLIS/CNPCOO MESSAGE  
221300ZJAN01

REFERENCE BRIEF

PROBLEM REPORTED  
INITIAL RESPONSE  
RECEIPT OF LAUNCHER