

# **BELL OH-58 KIOWA**

## **OH-58 SERVICE**

**Manufacturer:** Bell Helicopter Co., Textron Corp., Fort Worth, Texas, USA  
(In 1976, became Bell Helicopter Textron, Textron Inc.)

**Models:** Model 206, 406

**Designations:** H-58 (OH-58); H-57 (TH-57), H-67 (TH-67), HO-4,  
H-4 (OH-4), CH-136 / CH-139 (CAF)

**Names:** Kiowa; Creek (TH-67A), Kiowa Warrior (OH-58D),  
Sea Ranger (TH-57)

**First official flight:** YOH-4A 08/12/1962

**Factory production period:** 1961 – 2007

**Primary service period:** 1969 – 2016

**Last official flight:** OH-58D 15/04/2016

## **OH-58 VARIANTS**

Based on the civil **Bell 206 Jet Ranger**, ff: 10/01/1966, built from 1965 – 2010 as the 1966 **206A Jet Ranger** (c/n: 1 / 715), 1970 **206B Jet Ranger II** (c/n: 716 / 2211) and 1977 **206B / 206B-3 Jet Ranger III** (c/n: 2212 / 4690). License built in Italy as the **Agusta-Bell AB.206 Jet Ranger** from 1967. Many foreign military orders among these batches.

1962	<b>Model 206</b>	<b>YOH-4A</b>	8	<b>Total: 0008</b>
1968	<b>Model 206A-1/B-1</b>	<b>OH-58A</b>	2270	
1971	<b>Model 206A-1</b>	<b>COH-58A</b>	74	
1976	<b>Model 206A-1</b>	<b>OH-58B</b>	38	<b>Total: 2382</b>
1968	<b>Model 206A-1</b>	<b>TH-57A</b>	40	
1986	<b>Model 206B-3</b>	<b>TH-57B</b>	51	
1982	<b>Model 206B-3</b>	<b>TH-57C</b>	89	<b>Total: 0180</b>
1981	<b>Model 206B-3</b>	<b>CH-139</b>	14	<b>Total: 0014</b>
				<b><u>Total: 2584</u></b>
	<i>Foreign built – Canada:</i>			
1993	<b>Model 206B-3</b>	<b>TH-67A</b>	213	<b><u>Total: 0213</u></b>

## **OH-58 PRODUCTION**

### **YOH-4A**

*Prototype, single-engined, 2-bladed rotor, light observation helicopter for US Army. 3 with civil regs. Original designation was **YHO-4**. produced 1961 – 1962 Bell Fort Worth, Texas (BF) N73999, N73917 (civil reg.) 1, 2*

N73933 ( <i>civil reg.</i> )	3		
62-4202 / 62-4206	4 / 8		8 <b>Total: 0008</b>
<b>OH-58A</b>			
<i>Redesigned fuselage based on civil Model 206, engine / rotor upgrade. US supplied kits for Australian assembled version with local model number CA-32 (Model 206B-1). First 2 as civil test helicopters.</i>			
<i>produced 1968 – 1977</i>			
Bell Fort Worth, Texas (BF)			
N4782R, N4783R ( <i>civil reg.</i> )	39998, 39999		2
68-16687 / 68-16986	40001 / 40300		
69-16080 / 69-16397	40301 / 40600		
70-15050 / 70-15649	40601 / 41200		
71-20340 / 71-20865	41201 / 41726		
72-21061 / 72-21460	41727 / 42126		
73-21861 / 73-21934	42127 / 42200	2200	
(Australia – RAAF)			
A17-001 / A17-012	44501 / 44512		12
(Spain)			
HR.12B-6 / HR.12B-17	42224 / 42235		12
<i>Foreign assembled – Australia:</i>			
Commonwealth Aircraft Corp. (CAC), Melbourne, Victoria, Australia (RAAF)			
A17-013 / A17-056	44513 / 44556	44	<b>Total: 2270</b>
	(CA32-13 / CA32-56)		
<b>COH-58A</b>			
<i>As OH-58A, export version for Canada.</i>			
<i>CAF designation: CH-136.</i>			
<i>produced 1971 – 1972</i>			
Bell Fort Worth, Texas (BF)			
71-20866 / 71-20939	44001 / 44074	74	<b>Total: 0074</b>
<i>Delivered as:</i>			
(CAF) 136201 / 136274			
<b>OH-58B</b>			
<i>As OH-58A, export version.</i>			
<i>produced</i>			
Bell Fort Worth, Texas (BF)			
(Austria) 3C-OA / 3C-OL	42239 / 42250	12	
(Israel) 123 / 145	42201 / 42223	23	
(Turkey) 10426 / 10428	42236 / 42238	3	<b>Total: 0038</b>
<b>TH-57A Sea Ranger</b>			
<i>As OH-58A, trainer version for US Navy.</i>			
<i>produced 1968</i>			
Bell Fort Worth, Texas (BF)			
BuNo. 157355 / 157394	5001 / 5040	40	<b>Total: 0040</b>
<b>TH-57B Sea Ranger</b>			
<i>As TH-57A, engine / avionics upgrade.</i>			
<i>produced</i>			
Bell Fort Worth, Texas (BF)			
BuNo. 161695 / 161701	<i>mixed 3437 to 3545</i>		

BuNo. 162803 / 162810	3828 / 3835	
BuNo. 163312 / 163347	3882 / 3917	51 <b>Total: 0051</b>

**TH-57C Sea Ranger**

*As TH-58B, engine / avionics (IFR) upgrade.  
produced*

Bell Fort Worth, Texas (BF)

BuNo. 162013 / 162067	<i>mixed 3572 to 3742</i>	
BuNo. 162666 / 162686	<i>mixed 3747 to 3781</i>	
BuNo. 162811 / 162823	3836 / 3848	89 <b>Total: 0089</b>

**CH-139**

*As civil Model 206B-3, export version  
for Canada. All given Canadian civil  
reg.'s in 1992.*

*produced 1980 – 1981*

Bell Fort Worth, Texas

(CAF) 139301 / 139314	<i>mixed 3324 to 3391</i>	14 <b>Total: 0014</b>
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**Total: 2584**

*Foreign built – Canada:*

**TH-67A Creek**

*As civil Model 206B-3, trainer version for US  
Army, prototype was designated as **YTH-67A**.  
US Army deliveries only with a US civil reg.  
produced 1993 – 2007*

Bell Canada, Mirabel, Quebec, Canada

<i>civil reg.</i>	5101 / 5237	
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<i>civil reg.</i>	5268 / 5313	183
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(Taiwan) 201 / 230	5238 / 5267	30 <b>Total: 0213</b>
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**OH-58 CONVERSIONS**

**US Army**

GOH-58A	24	OH-58A, conversions to ground instruction duties.
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JOH-58A	3	OH-58A, temporary conversions for test duties.
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<b>OH-58C</b>	<b>438</b>	OH-58A, 1976, engine upgrade, flat windscreen and various internal improvements. First 3 were prototypes. Sub variants: <b>OH-58C(FG)</b> , <b>OH-58C(RG)</b> .
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(GOH-58C)	5	OH-58C, conversions to ground instruction duties.
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(JOH-58C)	2	OH-58C, temporary conversions for test duties.
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**(Model 406) OH-58D Kiowa Warrior**

<b>641</b>	OH-58A/C, 1983-2016, remanufactured close-combat air support / scout version. Engine upgrade, 4-bladed rotor, mast mounted "ball" sight with various sensors, avionics upgrade. From 1988 had armament fitted with unofficial designation: <b>AH-58D</b> . 601 to US Army, 40 to Taiwan.
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Same s/n:	New c/n:
68-16748, 68-16754	43001, 43002
69-16139, 69-16322	43003, 43004
69-16285	43005

New s/n:	New c/n:
83-24129 / 83-24144	43006 / 43021
85-24690 / 85-24733	43022 / 43065
86-08901 / 86-08939	43066 / 43104
87-00725 / 87-00760	43105 / 43140

88-00285 / 88-00320	43141 / 43176
89-00082 / 89-00117	43177 / 43212
90-00346 / 90-00381	43213 / 43248
91-00536 / 91-00571	43249 / 43284
92-00518 / 92-00545	48499 / 48526
92-00571 / 92-00606	43285 / 43320
93-00935 / 93-00970	43321 / 43356
93-00971 / 93-01008	48527 / 48564
93-01009 / 93-01035	44101 / 44127
<i>- 27 to Taiwan as 600 / 626.</i>	
94-00050 / 94-00064	43357 / 43371
94-00149 / 94-00167	48400 / 48418
94-00168 / 94-00186	48565 / 48583
95-00002 / 95-00006	48612 / 48616 (not confirmed)
95-00007 / 95-00034	48584 / 48611 (not confirmed)
95-00035 / 95-00039	48422 / 48426
95-00072 / 95-00087	43372 / 43387
96-00009 / 96-00041	48617 / 48649
96-00113 / 96-00128	43388 / 43403
97-00124 / 97-00136	43404 / 43416
97-01321 / 97-01330	48427 / 48436
98-00058 / 98-00070	44128 / 44140

*- 13 to Taiwan as 627 / 639.*

- (GOH-58D) 1 OH-58D, conversion to ground instruction duties.  
(OH-58D(I)) 290 OH-58D, 1997, Improved Production Aircraft upgrades with engine upgrade, new avionics and armament options.  
(OH-58D(R)) 139 OH-58D(I), 1998, various safety feature improvements.  
(OH-58F) 1 OH-58D(93-00960), 2013, major avionics / sensor upgrade, nose-mounted sensor. 368 OH-58D conversions cancelled.  
(OH-58X) 1 OH-58D(69-16322), part-stealth electronics upgrade prototype.  
**Model 406CS Combat Scout**  
1 Model 206B-3 (c/n: 2500), 1984, armed demonstrator prototype as N2500B (civil reg.). 15 delivered to Saudi Arabia in 1990.

## FOREIGN MILITARY SERVICE

- OH-58 delivered new for military service with Australia, Austria, Canada, Israel, Spain and Taiwan.
- OH-58D delivered second hand to Croatia and Tunisia.
- Military export Model 206 delivered both new and second hand to many air forces worldwide in the training and aerial observation roles.