



# Overdrive Obstructions

by Jon Chulow



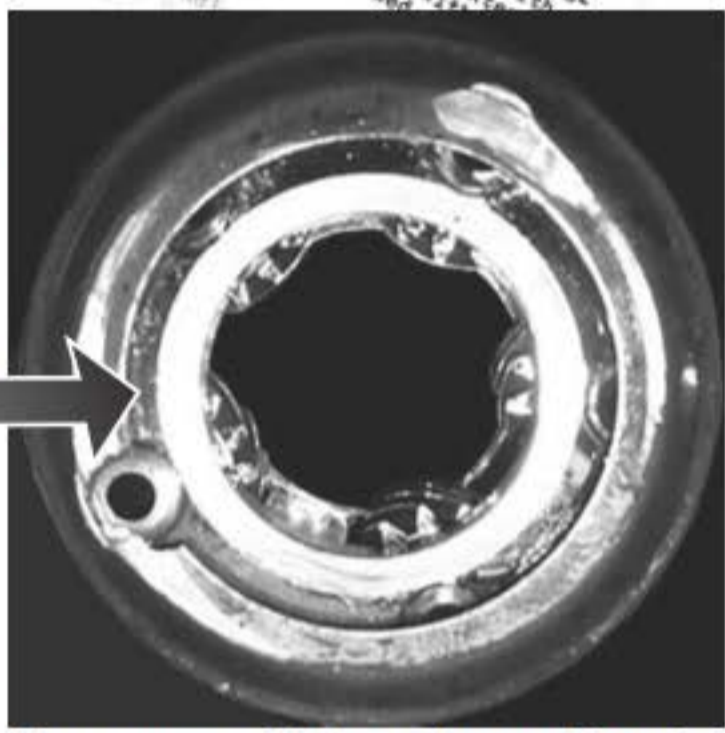
Over the years we have been warned many times of the paraffin type oil deposits that accumulate in the oil passages of our overdrives. There have been articles by **John Smith, David Askey, John Spinks, Harold Irwin and Bill Young.**

Not until now, most of you haven't seen the ugly truth for yourself. I have disassembled three different overdrives, exposing the freewheel housings. Two of these units looked exceptionally clean inside; however, **ALL** had the hard waxy buildup blocking the oil distribution holes in the housing and the planet gear assembly. One has to pay great attention to cleaning these two steel slingers and lubrication holes. They are fixed and get packed with hard wax obstructing the free flow of oil to these crucial lubricating areas of the overdrive. They can't be cleaned by solvents, hot or cold tank soakings. **It must be dug out.**

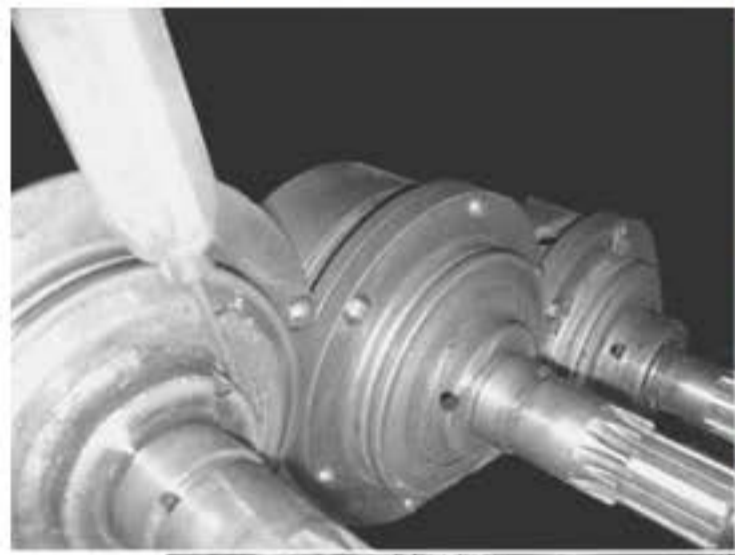
If you use your overdrive or not, you are more than likely to have this problem. Your assembly may start to look like this...

One of the best articles is by **Bill Young** found in the May 1985 newsletter. Bill goes into great detail of how to clean, disassemble and reassemble overdrives properly. Please don't let your overdrive get ruined. The article is readily available from the A.C.A. store in the Technical Manual CD or Frank Daly's new complete Newsletter DVD. Read all the sections on overdrive operation and repair.

It is very important to save and re-install the center external housing gaskets because they maintain proper internal adjustment distances.



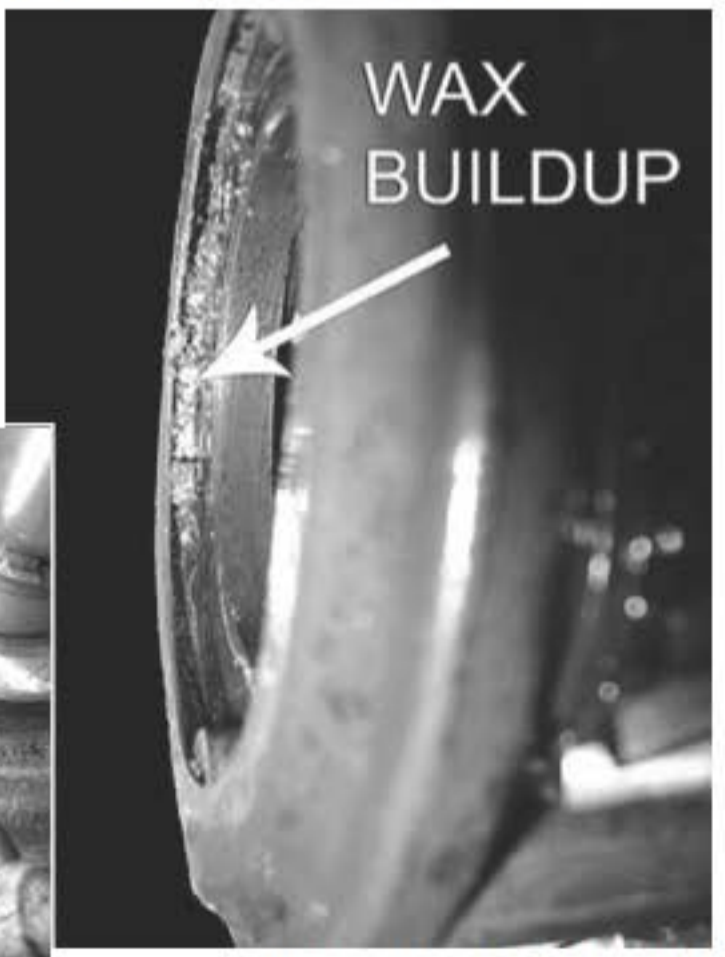
Planet gear assembly that was destroyed due to the lack of proper lubrication caused by the blockage of the fixed oil slingers and oil holes



Above top: Three overdrive freewheel housings being cleaned out, middle: first of the three units getting cleaned; right: the second unit getting cleaned



Disassembling and gouging out the hardened wax is the only way to get rid of this overdrive killer.



Planet gear assembly ring totally blocked with the wax