Fact Sheet

The Merida Initiative Aviation Program

Airlift is an essential tool that enables counternarcotics operations and criminal justice enforcement, further extending the reach and extent of the rule of law. In addition to providing criminal investigation surveillance and support to law enforcement operations on the ground, aircraft move law enforcement personnel to inaccessible regions , enabling interdiction operations to target illicit actors, interdict trafficking, and transport law enforcement and other government personnel more rapidly and securely.

The air support delivered from the United States under the Merida Initiative supplements an aggressive Government of Mexico law enforcement strategy backed by investment of resources that serves our shared goals of citizen safety, security, and respect for the rule of law.

History of U.S. Aviation Deliveries:

Mexico's Secretariat of Public Security (SSP)

- To date, three (3) Black Hawk UH-60M helicopters have been delivered
- An additional three (3) Black Hawks are being prepared for delivery in late 2011/early 2012
- One (1) Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) Dornier 328-JET aircraft contract is underway for the SSP, and is expected for delivery in 2012

Mexico's Secretariat of National Defense (SEDENA)

- Eight (8) Bell 412 helicopters have been delivered

Mexico's Secretariat of the Navy (SEMAR)

- Four (4) CASA 235 maritime surveillance aircraft are being procured for the Mexican Navy
- Three (3) Black Hawk UH-60M helicopters will be delivered in 2011

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July 2011