



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, four Blackhawk UH-60M helicopters have been delivered
- Two additional Blackhawks are being prepared for delivery in early 2012
- One 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 Bell 412 helicopters have been delivered

Mexico's Secretariat of the Navy (SEMAR)

- Three Blackhawk UH-60M helicopters were delivered in 2011
- The first of four CASA 235 maritime surveillance aircraft has been delivered to the Mexican Navy, the additional three are being prepared for delivery in early 2012



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