



The Merida Initiative Aviation Program

Helicopter airlift is an essential tool, which enables counternarcotics operations, criminal justice enforcement, and further extends the reach and extent of the rule of law. Besides providing criminal investigation surveillance and support to law enforcement operations on the ground, these aircraft move law enforcement personnel to regions difficult to reach by ground or inaccessible altogether, enabling interdiction operations to target illicit actors, interdict trafficking, and transport law enforcement and other government personnel more rapidly and securely than otherwise.

The air support delivered from the United States supplements an aggressive Government of Mexico law enforcement strategy and represents significant U.S. support via the Merida Initiative and 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 will be ready for delivery by December 2011
- One (1) Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) Dornier 328-JET aircraft contract is underway for the SSP, and is expected for delivery in 2011

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 235s, a 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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