



GRIPEN INTERNATIONAL

The first of 14 Gripen C/D air superiority fighters on order for the Czech air force made its flight debut last month

the elderly UTVAs, with the SF260 and Zlin 242 being considered. Ukraine is upgrading 10 Mi-8MTVs.

#### Fleet review

A major rationalisation of the fleet is under way to reduce types in service in a bid to minimise operating costs. The ministry of defence and ministry of interior are consider outsourcing the provision of helicopters for police, search and rescue, fire fighting and coastal patrol work.

Type	Active	Stored	Order/Req
<b>COMBAT AIRCRAFT</b>			
MiG-21bis/UBM	8/4	16	
G-2 Galeb	1		
J-1 Jastreb	1		
J-20 Kraguj	3		
<b>ISTAR/SPECIAL MISSION</b>			
CL-215/CL-415	2/2		12-4
Be200			2/
<b>TRANSPORT</b>			
An-2	2	4	
An-32B	2		
CN-235			5/
Falcon 10	1		
Canadair CL-604	1		
D0-28D2	1		
<b>COMBAT HELICOPTER</b>			
Mi-24V	15		
Mi-8T/P/S/MTV-1	29		
Mi-2		1	
Bell 206	8		
<b>TRAINING AIRCRAFT</b>			
PC-9	20		
Utva	12		
<b>UNMANNED AIR VEHICLES</b>			
MAH-1/2			

#### CUBA

#### DEFENSA ANTI-AEREA Y FUERZA AEREA REVOLUCIONARIA (ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENCE AND REVOLUTIONARY AIR FORCE)

Although Cuba's air force is one of the largest and best equipped in Latin America, its effectiveness has been compromised by the withdrawal of technical and operational support after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the island's poor economic situation.

#### Operational activity

Except for humanitarian relief operations after this year's hurricanes the Cuban air force has been involved in no major operational activity.

#### Procurement

In May 2001, senior Cuban defence officials visited Moscow to discuss possible fighter upgrades. Beyond

the purchase of a new Il-96 VIP aircraft for President Fidel Castro no new procurement is envisaged.

#### Fleet review

Foreign defence analysts estimate that nearly one quarter of the aircraft in the air force's inventory may no longer be operational, a situation that is expected to continue to deteriorate.

Type	Active	Stored	Order/Req
<b>COMBAT AIRCRAFT</b>			
MiG-29/UB	12/2		
MiG-21F/PFM/MF/bis/U	40/35/20/80/18		
MiG-23ML/BN/MF/UB	27/24/14/7		
<b>ISTAR/SPECIAL MISSION</b>			
An-30	1		
<b>TRANSPORT</b>			
An-24	1		
An-26	37		
An-32	2		
Yak-40	7		
Il-14	2		
Il-62	1		
Il-96			1/
An-2	5		
Let L-200	16		
Zlin 142	10		
Cessna 172/T210N	1/1		
Sabreliner 75A	1		
CL601 Challenger	2		
Dornier 28	1		
PA-28 Warrior	3		
PA-31T	2		
<b>COMBAT HELICOPTER</b>			
Mi-24D	1	2	
Mi-14PL	14		
Mi-2		6	
Mi-24	5		
Ka-32	3		
Mi-8/Mi-17	14/14		
<b>TRAINING AIRCRAFT/HELICOPTERS</b>			
L-39	25		
MiG-17F		18	
Zlin 326	20		
PC-9	20		
Bell 206B-3	10		
MD500	4		
UTVA-75	10		

#### CYPRUS

#### CYPRUS AIR FORCE

The Cypriot national guard's air arm was renamed the Cyprus Air Force in 1996. It adopted Greek national military markings at the same time. The north of the

island remains garrison by Turkish troops and UN troops man a buffer zone.

#### Operational activity

Routine patrol duty, firefighting and search and rescue tasks are the main activities of the Cyprus Air Force. These are backed by an RAF detachment of Bell 412s.

#### Procurement

It took delivery in 2001 of 12 new Mi-24VK-2s from Russia to supplement a few armed Gazelles. An order for an Mi-26 heavylift helicopter has been placed, while the Greek army began leasing two UH-1Hs in 2002.

#### Fleet review

Turkish army U-17s and UH-1Ds are based at Salamis and Nicosia in northern Cyprus on permanent duty.

Type	Active	Stored	Order/Req
<b>ISTAR/SPECIAL MISSION</b>			
BN-2B Maritime Defender	1		
<b>COMBAT HELICOPTER</b>			
Bell 206L3	2		
MD500	2		
PZL-Swidnik Kania		2	
SA342L-1 Gazelle	6		
Mi-24VK-2	12		
Bell 412EP	3		
Mi-26			1
UH-1H			2
<b>TRAINING AIRCRAFT</b>			
PC-9	2		

#### CZECH REPUBLIC

#### ČESKÉ LETECTVO A PROTIVZDUŠNÁ OBRANA (AIR FORCE AND AIR DEFENCE)

The Czech Republic joined NATO in 1999 and is in the process of modernising its forces to allow them to be inter-operable with allied forces.

#### Operational activity

Two Mi-17s are deployed to support NATO peacekeeping troops in Bosnia and the transport fleet has supported Czech peacekeeping deployments in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kosovo.

#### Procurement

A long competition to select a supersonic fighter was settled during 2004, with the government deciding to lease 14 Gripens for \$750 million to replace the MiG-21 fleet, which must be retired in 2005. A requirement for an additional squadron of 14-24 new fighters to be in service by 2009 is also emerging. A transport requirement could be filled by taking two An-70s in 2005-6 as part of Russia's debt repayment to Prague, but the deal looks in doubt after the Russian government threatened to pull out of the project. The deal also includes MiG-21 and helicopter spares, and several dozen Mi-17s and