

European Union Naval Force – Mediterranean Operation SOPHIA ESP CN-235 Vigma D-4

D4 “VIGMA”

Locked Martin



Aircraft	CN-235 VIGMA-D4
Length	21.35 m
Wingspan:	25.81 m
Height:	8.17 m
Empty Weight:	10.200 kg
Maximum mass:	16500 Kg
speed:	450 km/hr
Autonomy:	9 hrs
Ceiling:	8000 m

Source: Spanish AF website
<http://www.ejercitodelaire.mde.es/>

The Aircraft

In 1980, CASA and the Indonesian IPTN decided to join forces in order to improve the great results of the C-212, developing the CN-235. After the arrival of C-295 to the Spanish Air Force, some of the CN-235 were reconverted into D4 VIGMA (MPA) for the Search and Rescue squadrons, substituting the D3 (C-212) to perform also maritime patrol with lower costs than the P3.

They are framed into the 37th Wing at Villanubla AFB, though operated by the 801SQN (Mallorca), 802SQN (Madrid) and 803SQN (Gran Canaria).

Some of the missions that are entrusted to the Maritime Patrol aircraft are:

- control and monitoring of Spanish coasts and territorial waters;
- make photographic intelligence missions, identification of ships, anti-submarine and anti-surface (detection, localization, tracking and attack ships and submarines);
- the fisheries protection, drug war and illegal immigration;
- Search and Rescue activities.

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