



European Union Naval Force – Mediterranean ESP P3 “ORION”

P3 “ORION”

Lockheed Martin



Aircraft	P3
Length	38.80 m
Wingspan:	30.00 m
Height:	10.2 m
Empty Weight:	34650 kg
Maximum mass:	63000 Kg
speed:	750 km/hr
Autonomy:	14:00 hrs
Ceiling:	8625 m

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

The Aircraft

In accordance with the provisions of the 1970 agreement with the United States, the Air Force received in 1973 the first three Orion aircraft intended to replace the yet veteran Grumman Albatross seaplane fleet; since then the P-3 became the basic platform of anti-submarine and maritime patrol.

In 1979, four new aircraft were received in the Deltic version.

Currently, the fleet of maritime patrol aircraft consists of 2 P-3A & 5 P3B, the latter subject to a modernization program which aims to extend its operating life and improve performance. They are framed into the 11th Wing at Moron AFB.

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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http://eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eunavfor-med/index_en.htm