



European Union Naval Force – Mediterranean ESP SH-60B LAMPS III



Helicopter	Sikorsky
Length	19,76 m
Wingspan:	16,36 m
Height:	5,8 m
Empty Weight:	6190 kg
Maximum mass:	9843 Kg
speed:	180 km/hr
Autonomy:	4:00 hrs

Source: Spanish Defense website
<http://www.armada.mde.es>

The Helicopter

The SH-60B is deployed primarily aboard frigates, destroyers, and cruisers.

The helicopter SIKORSKY SH-60B LAMPS III (Light Airborne Multi-purpose System) strongly enhances the ship surveillance capability, extending the range beyond the horizon. The helicopter's connectivity with the ship through 'data-link' allows her to send and receive data in real time, permitting ship operators to directly observe what the helicopter sensors are capturing. Although originally designed for anti-submarine warfare, her primary mission today is to contribute to the establishment of a Recognized Maritime Picture and to provide security during both boarding operations and surface engagements.

These helicopters usually carry three crew members on board: a pilot, a tactical officer and a sensor operator. The tactical officer is responsible for the tactical situation and mission control.

The SH-60B helicopters belong to the 10th Fleet Navy Aircraft Squadron based in Rota (Cadiz) and first operated on board the 'Santa Maria' (F-80) class frigates during missions in the early 90s.

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