



Although a sizeable fleet of Cessna 208 was obtained, the EMB110 Bandeirante is still going strong. This 2347 even constitutes a first note, it is believed to be a former SC-95B SAR aircraft, 6546, that had been stored for some time. (Natal, November 2018, Jurgen van Toor)

seem to use both. Officially, the AH-6i is the export version of the AH-6S, however. In October 2010 Saudi Arabia requested 36 Boeing Rotor Craft Systems AH-6i aircraft with related equipment and weapons from the United States through a Foreign Military Sale. The fiscal year (FY) serial of the above helicopters should be 16-01001 onwards.

AH-64E

50106	1st Aviation Brigade f/n, ex Boeing	jan18
-------	-------------------------------------	-------

The former US Army fiscal year (FY) serial of this Apache Guardian is 15-00106.

UH-60M

27092	1st Aviation Brigade f/n, ex Sikorsky	jan18
27266	1st Aviation Brigade f/n, ex Sikorsky	feb18
27271	Sikorsky f/n Hunter AAF (AL) for shipping	oct15
27272	Sikorsky f/n Hunter AAF (AL) for shipping	oct15
27273	Sikorsky f/n Hunter AAF (AL) for shipping	oct15
27275	Sikorsky f/n Hunter AAF (AL) for shipping	oct15
27327	Sikorsky f/n primer Ocala (FL)	oct17
27356	Sikorsky f/n primer Ocala (FL)	feb16

More sightings of new rotorcraft for the SANG. FY serials are hard to get, Black Hawk 12-27266 and 11-27271 onwards should be correct but requires confirmation.

Royal Saudi Naval Force (NY)

The first of several MH-60R Seahawks purchased by the Royal Saudi Naval Forces (RSNF) arrived at Naval Station Mayport (FL) on 2 October 2018. The helicopters are part of a training programme for Saudi pilots and crew that is expected to last for the next three years. Sikorsky delivered the first MH-60R for the Royal Saudi Navy (RSN) during a ceremony in Owego (NY) on 13 September 2018. A total of ten helicopters are on order.

Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 40, a helicopter squadron based at Naval Station Mayport (FL), is playing an imperative role in the training of RSN officers and crewmen. They will be responsible for providing the training that the foreign military sales office has contracted with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Training for 250 plus pilots, aircrew and maintainers will be facilitated. HSM-40 will expect one more MH-60R per month for the next four months. The five helicopters will remain in the US until all the remaining aircraft are ready to be shipped back to Saudi Arabia to join the RSN fleet where a

new squadron will stand up.

MH-60R

802	HSM-40	f/n, BuNo 169384	70-4885	oct18
-----	--------	------------------	----------------	-------

The above Seahawk showed up on various online footage during a ceremony hosted by the US Navy, Sikorsky and Saudi Navy officials during the celebration of the first acceptance at Owego (NY) on 13 September 2018. It flew into Mayport (FL) 2 October 2018. The Bureau Number is small in grey on grey numbers aft of the tail boom and the Saudi serial similar small on a panel on the tail boom. We assume the Saudi serial batch runs from 801 to 810.

Saudi Arabian Government (GW)

More of the new Airbus Helicopter Deutschland like below have been noted but we are still compiling a full list.

H145T2

MOI-52/D-HCBW	MOI	f/n	20127	jul18
---------------	-----	-----	--------------	-------

United Arab Emirates

Joint Aviation Command (AR)

Whatever happened to the UAE Pumas?

The original Puma Squadron, back then located at Al Bateen, was initially equipped with a mix of IAR330L, SA330C and SA330F helicopters. The IAR 330 is the Romanian-built IAR Brasov version of the Aérospatiale SA330 Puma helicopter. The following serials and construction numbers are known to us:

IAR330L

181	Puma sq.	to Lebanon L-9..	144	may99
182	Puma sq		034	jul01
183	Puma sq		039	nov97
184	Puma sq			jul01
185	Puma sq		056	jul01
186	Puma sq			jul01
187	Puma sq		036	jul01
188	Puma sq			jul01
189	Puma sq			nov97
190	Puma sq		019	oct00

SA330C

111	Puma sq		1113	jan98
112	Puma sq		1127	
113	to 2415	to Lebanon L-913	1169	

C-130J													
06-3171	317th AW	ex 40th AS	382-5641	nov18	61-0315	6th AMW	ex 92nd ARW	18222/T0537	oct18				
07-3170	317th AW	ex 41st AS	382-5628	feb18	62-3507	336th ARS	ex 909th ARS	18490/T0558	nov18				
07-4638	317th AW	ex WR-ALC	382-5598	apr18	62-3575	6th AMW	ex 91st ARS	18558/T0626	may18				
08-3175	317th AW	ex 40th AS	382-5670	feb18	63-8008	92nd ARW	ex 22nd ARW	18625/T0664	oct18				
08-5675	317th AW	ex 40th AS	382-5675	nov18	63-8019	no markings	ex 22nd ARW	18636/T0675	oct18				
08-5683	317th AW	ex 39th AS	382-5675	nov18	63-8022	no markings	ex 22nd ARW	18639/T0678	apr18				
08-5691	317th AW	ex 39th AS	382-5683	dec18	63-8025	no markings	ex 22nd ARW	18642/T0681	apr18				
08-5693	317th AW	ex 39th AS	382-5691	feb18	63-8034	92nd ARW	ex 909th ARS	18651/T0690	mar18				
08-5712	317th AW	ex 39th AS	382-5693	mar18	63-8887	no markings	ex 909th ARS	18735/T0718	jan18				
08-5726	317th AW	ex 39th AS	382-5712	dec18	64-14837	6th AMW	ex 22nd ARW	18777/T0729	mar18				
10-5701	317th AW	ex 39th AS	382-5726	dec18	KC-135T								
10-5728	62nd AS	ex 48th AS	382-5701	dec18	58-0055	92nd ARW	ex 91st ARS	17800/T0270	mar18				
11-5732	317th AW	ex 48th AS	382-5728	dec18	59-1462	22nd ARW	ex 92st ARS	17950/T0365	jan18				
11-5740	317th AW	ex 48th AS	382-5732	may18	59-1471	92nd ARW	ex 351st ARS	17959/T0374	nov18				
16-5843/YJ	36th AS	new delivery	382-5740	nov18	60-0337	22nd ARW	ex 92nd ARW	18112/T0451	oct18				
16-5859	41st AS	new delivery	382-5843	nov18	60-0339	92nd ARW	ex 91st ARS	18114/T0453	oct18				
			382-5859	dec18	F-15E								
C-146A					90-0257/WA	57th WPSS	ex 17th WPS	1196/E159	nov18				
16-3020	919th SOW	ex 524th SOS	3020	nov18	98-0132/ET	40th FLTS	ex 494th FS	1362/E223	nov18				
N250BG	Dornier	new ex D-CAAO	3025	mar17	F-16A								
C-17A					80-0584/ED	309th AMARG	ex 416th FLTS	61-305	oct18				
02-1101	758th AS	ex 437th AW	50109/F108/P101	nov18	F-16B								
07-7170	436th AW	ex 3rd AS	50182/F181/P170	nov18	78-00771/-	Pima A&S, ex 309th AMARG		62-3	jul18				
98-0054	437th AW	ex 155th AS	50058/F057/P54	dec18	F-16C								
C-5M					85-1475/TX	to QF-16, ex 309th AMARG		5C-255	nov18				
86-0021	356th AS	ex Marietta-LMTAS	500-107	dec18	85-1490	to QF-16, ex 309th AMARG		5C-270	nov18				
CV-22B					86-0277	120th FS	ex 134th FS	5C-383	may18				
10-0052	7th SOS	ex 20th SOS	D1028	dec18	F-16CM								
EC-130H					88-0436/WA	16th WPS	ex 24th TASS	1C-38	oct18				
65-0989/DM	309th AMARG	ex 43rd ECS	382-4150	sep18	88-0447/AZ	162nd FW	ex 421st FS	1C-49	nov18				
73-1585	43rd EECS	ex 41st ECS	382-4547	dec18	88-0456	no markings	oct18 ex 416th FLTS	1C-58	oct18				
HC-130H					88-0533/WA	24th TASS	ex 4th FS	1C-135	mar18				
88-2101	309th AMARG	ex 102nd RQS	382-5202	nov18	89-2065/HL	175th FS	4th FS markings	mar18	1C-218	mar18			
MC-130H					89-2067/AZ	162nd FW	ex 421st FS	1C-220	oct18				
84-0476	309th AMARG	ex 15th SOS	382-5042	aug18	89-2075/AZ	152nd FS	ex 4th FS	1C-228	nov18				
88-0264	67th SOS	ex 15th SOS	382-5135	oct18	89-2081	175th FS	no markings	mar18	1C-234	mar18			
HC-130J					89-2087/LF	310th FS	ex 421st FS	1C-240	oct18				
16-5857	unknown	new delivery	382-5857	dec18	89-2090/AZ	162nd FW	ex 4th FS	1C-243	oct18				
16-5858	129th RQW	new delivery	382-5858	dec18	90-0830/SW	55th FS	ex 79th FS	CC-30	nov18				
MC-130J					91-0359/SW	79th FS	ex 77th FS	CC-57	mar18				
09-6208	415th SOS	ex 9th SOS	382-5657	jun18	91-0398/SW	79th FS	ex 55th FS	CC-96	mar18				
KC-135A					F-16D								
56-3633	scrapped	ex 309th AMARG	17382/T0072	aug18	83-1184/LF	310th FS	ex 309th FS	5D-11	mar18				
56-3637	scrapped	ex 309th AMARG	17386/T0076	aug18	84-1326/AZ	195th FS	ex maint at SABCA	5D-20	dec18				
KC-135R					87-0365/SA	182nd FS	TX ANG	5D-59	dec18				
57-1439	6th AMW	ex 91st ARS	17510/T0119	nov18	89-2174/HL	unknown	ex 4th FS	1D-49	nov18				
58-0113	351st ARS	ex 54th ARS	17858/T0328	aug18	90-0796/AV	510th FS	ex 56th FW	1D-74	may18				
59-1495/ZZ	909th ARS	ex 173rd AS	17983/T0398	dec18	F-22A-30-LM								
60-0353	6th AMW	ex unmarked	18128/T0467	mar18	07-4146/AK	90th FS	dam at NAS Fallon	645-4146	apr18				
61-0308	22nd ARW	ex 54th ARS	18215/T0530	nov18	F-35A								
					09-5005/LF	56th FW	ex 422nd TES	AF-18	nov18				



Phoenix Mesa-Gateway is worth a visit for its various military visitors during weekends. On 11 November Bert Stil encountered TAV-8B 163859 from VMAT-203 on arrival at Mesa. Based at MCAS Cherry Point this units operates a total of sixteen dual Harriers.



Most remembered for its MiG-28 caption during the first Top Gun movie is this black coloured F-5F. Part of NAS Fallon based VFC-13, fourteen F-5 Tiger II operates with thirteen F-5N models and one dual F-5F, 761580/AF-20. (Phoenix Mesa-Gateway, 16 November 2018, Bert Stil)

P-3C AIP

161333/333 309th AMARG ex 333/VP-62 **5730** dec18

P-8A

168438/LK-438 VP-26 **40818/4294** dec18
 169346/346 VP-30 del 19dec18 **63196/6909** dec18

United States Marine Corps unit news

Marine Force Atlantic (MARFORLANT)

The US Navy's Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 135 Black Ravens ('NL-52x'), operating the EA-18G Growler, replaced the US Marine Corps' Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (VMAQ) 2 Death Jesters ('CY-xx'), operating the EA-6B Prowler, at Al Udeid Air Base (Qatar) from 30 October 2018. The Growler unit is providing electronic attack, jamming, satellite communication and communication countermeasures to aerial operations in the US 5th Fleet area of operations in support of naval operations to ensure maritime stability and security in the Central Region, connecting the Mediterranean and the Pacific through the western Indian Ocean and three strategic choke points. The operations mainly focus on Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan.

The 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit and the Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) deployed from homeport NS Norfolk (VA) for a on scheduled seven-month deployment on 17 December 2018. The Navy-Marine Corps team will support maritime security operations, crisis response and theater security cooperation in EUCOM (Mediterranean Sea) and CENTCOM (Middle East, Arabian Gulf). The USS Kearsarge (LHD-3) has the 22nd MEU embarked with an Aviation Combat Element consisting out: VMM-264 Reinforced Black Knights ('EH-xx') with MV-22Bs, and originating from HMH-366 Hammerheads, ex 'HH-xx'), AH-1Y/AH-1Z ('EH-3x and 'EH-4x', originating from HMLA-?) and CH-53Es ('EH-2x', AV-8Bs ('EH-5x', and originating from VMA-231 Ace of Spades, ex 'CG-xx'). Assigned to the ship is Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 26 Chargers ('HW-xx') equipped with MH-60S Seahawks. The 22nd last deployment in 5th and 6th Fleet was also in combination with VMM-264, both embarked on the USS Wasp (LHD-1) from 25 June to 24 December 2016.

United States Marine Corps (NY)

EA-6B

162934/CY-01 309th AMARG ex CY-01/VMAQ-2 **P-117** dec18
 163032/CY-03 309th AMARG ex CY-03/VMAQ-2 **P-125** nov18
 163045/CY-00 309th AMARG ex CY-00/VMAQ-2 **P-130** dec18

UC-12W

169539 lwakuni? f/n **FM-** dec18

C-20G

165152/152 Det. Kaneohe Bay ex 152/VR-51 **1201** oct18

KC-130J

167981/QD-981 VMGR-152 w/o 06dec18 **382-5617**

F/A-18A++

163166/VE-12 VMFA-115 ex VW-05/VMFA-314 **602/A509** dec18

F/A-18C

164719/SH-172 VMFAT-101 ex FRCSW **1167/C321** nov18
 164897 VMFA(AW)-224 ex 41/NAWDC **1229/C358** dec18
 164950/WK-00 VMFA(AW)-224 ex AB-407/VMFA-251 **1250/C374** dec18

F/A-18D

164043/VW-23 VMFA-314 ex AD-433/VFA-106 **931/D052** oct18
 164061/VW-24 VMFA-314 ex AD-435/VFA-106 **951/D059** oct18
 164672/CE-15 VMFA(AW)-225 ex SH-345/VMFAT-101 **1102/D093** nov18
 164876/WK-07 VMFA(AW)-224 ex WK-11 **1208/D119** dec18

F-35B

169414/CF-05 VMFA-211 ex CF-14 **BF-59** nov18

AH-1W

162569/TV-39 309th AMARG ex TV-39/HMLA-167 **26238** nov18
 165053/TV 309th AMARG ex TV/HMLA-167 **26313** nov18
 165097/TV-29 309th AMARG ex TV-29/HMLA-167 **29152** nov18
 165446/TV-42 309th AMARG ex TV-42/HMLA-167 nov18

UH-1Y

167998/TV-06 309th AMARG ex TV-06/HMLA-167 **55126/** dec18

AH-1Z

169087/SM-48 HMLA-369 ex SE-48/HMLA-469 **59228** nov18
 169094/UV-45 HMLA-167 ex UV-45/HMLA-267 **59235** nov18

VH-92A

169012 HMX-1 needs confirmation **920266** oct18
 169013 HMX-1 needs confirmation **920290** oct18

AV-8B

163864/KD-34 309th AMARG ex KD-34/VMAT-203 **172** dec18

AV-8B+(R)

165309/EH-52 VMM-264 ex CG-02/VMA-231 **267** dec18
 165574/EH-53 VMM-264 ex CG-06/VMA-231 **311** dec18

MV-22B

168028/YZ-07 VMM-363 ex EP-07/VMM-265 **D0158** dec18
 168032/YZ-09 VMM-363 ex EP-09/VMM-265 **D0162** dec18
 168601/YM-03 VMM-365 ex YS-02/VMM-162 **D0256?** nov15
 168609/ES-13 VMM-266 SPMAGTF-CR A **D0264?** dec18
 168636/ES-16 VMM-266 SPMAGTF-CR A **D0291?** dec18
 168638/EGS-08 VMM-266 SPMAGTF-CR A **D0293?** dec18
 168673/EH-14 VMM-264 f/n **D03..** dec18
 168677 Bell-Boeing f/n **D03..** nov18

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (GW)

F/A-18B

N867NA Armstrong del **155/B036** dec18

G-II (STA)

N946NA/46 preserved Air & Space museum **146** nov18

Credits

Ian Carroll, Raymond Cornwell, Daniele Mattiuzzo, Jorge Merino, Glenn Palmer, Pascal Simon, Jos Stevens, Peter Weinert

MM33AA/PAN(MLU) of 313°Gruppo/Frecce Tricolori:
 MM54500/1, MM54517/2, MM55059/3, MM54053/4, MM55059/5,
 MM54538/6, MM55054/7, MM54514/8, MM54539/9, MM54505/10,
 MM54510/0
 MB339NAT. of Al Fursan:
 435, 436, 440/1, 439/2, 434/3, 437/4, 430/5, 442/6, 441/7
 Su-30 of the Russian Knights:
 RF-81702/31, RF-81703/32, RF-81704/33, RF81705/34, RF81706/35

Near Tower:
 348 Bell 412EP 3rd Helicopter Squadron

Flying Only:

682, 683	F-5E	6th TFS	14, 15, 16
684	F-5E	6th TFS	14
687	F-5E	6th TFS	15, 16
103	F-16C	1st TFS	15, 16
109	F-16C	1st TFS	14
113	F-16C	1st TFS	14, 15, 16
115	F-16C	1st TFS	14, 15, 16
86-0124/DY	B-1B	9th BS	14, 15
169414/CF-05	F-35B	VMFA-211	14
169588/CF-03	F-35B	VMFA-211	15
169589/CF-04	F-35B	VMFA-211	16

The static was split into two parts – the main area where the trade, VIPs and Press have access to most of the aircraft and a public area around a kilometer away that only contained three helicopters, but had a view of the runway for the various flight displays. Around dusk those still remaining in the public area were allowed access into the trade area.

The display acts themselves were not so memorable as they were into sun from a photography perspective and contained nothing that couldn't be seen at many of the European airshows. The F-5/F-16 formation did a single flypast and the B-1 and F-35 at least made three passes each. The Russian Knights as usual were the highlights with their mighty Su-30s able to dazzle the most seasoned of spectators, a class act with superbly skilled pilots. The Gulf Air A320NSL and the 787 each did a display that really only consisted of a takeoff, couple of flybys where they banked away from the crowd followed by a landing. Not much more than to wave a flag if you ask me....

This was my third Bahrain Airshow and from a mil perspective it is definitely the rule of diminishing returns – only one fast jet and five helicopters were previously unseen from all those on offer. Military highlight was my 720th Il-76/78 airframe. The ATR72 F-WWLE which had passed through Al Bateen only a couple of days earlier after a demo tour and visiting the Zuhai airshow, for some inexplicable reason was not present at this one having chosen to head back to TLS instead.

Karachi (Pakistan)

IDEAS 2018

27-30 November 2018

Static:
 17-242 JF-17 (Block II) 2(MR)sq

06-09-820 K-8P 1(FCU)sq
 .../391 MFI-395 PAC Kamra wh/gn c/s

Flying only:
 786-204 Bell 412EP nn Commando demo
 ... F-16AADF nn at seafront
 94-01-805, 94-01-806 K-8P Sherdils at seafront
 03-02-808, 03-02-810 K-8P Sherdils at seafront
 03-02-811, 06-09-814 +1 K-8P Sherdils at seafront
 12, 14 +1 Sea King Mk45 111sq at seafront

JASDF Naha (Japan)

Air Show

8-9 December 2018

Static

28-1001	C-1FTB	Hiko Kaihatsu Jikkendan
68-1203	C-2	403 Hikotai
23-8115	F-2B	6 Hikotai
07-8428	F-4EJ Kai	302 Hikotai
62-8089	F-15DJ	204 Hikotai
57-4493	CH-47J	Koku Kyunandan
36-5698	T-4	204 Hikotai
16-5800	T-4	304 Hikotai
5070	P-3C	5 Kokutai (Saturday only)
5101	P-3C	5 Kokutai (Sunday only)
JA721A/MA721	DHC-8-315	11th Region, JCG

Flightline:

82-8905, 92-8909	F-15J	204 Hikotai
12-8927	F-15J	204 Hikotai
22-8935, 32-8941	F-15J	304 Hikotai
52-8954	F-15J	304 Hikotai
56-5740, 66-5743	T-4	Nansei Shien Hikohan
16-5801	T-4	Nansei Shien Hikohan
62-3004	U-125A	Koku Kyunandan
23054/W	LR-2	Seibu Homen Kokutai

E-2C 603 Hikotai
 34-3451, 34-3452, 34-3453
T-4 11 Hikotai/Blue Impulse:
 66-5745/1, 06-5787/2, 26-5692/3, 26-5686/4, 06-5790/5, 26-5690/6,
 46-5731/-

P-3C ramp:

5090	P-3C	5 Kokutai
5091	P-3C	2 Kokutai

Inside hangar:
 96-5625 T-4 Nansei Shien Hikohan

Elsewhere/Flying:

57-4492	CH-47J	Koku Kyunandan
88-4586, 08-4591	UH-60J	Koku Kyunandan
43119/XVH	UH-60JA	15 Herikopotatai
8298	SH-60J	21 Kokutai (Sunday)
5044	P-3C	5 Kokutai
JA911B/MH911	S-76D	11th Region, JCG

Credits: Reinier Schreurs, Michael Greenway, Clem van Egmond, Aidan Curley.



A preview for next months Showreports, Mi-171 22880 at the Zhuhai-Sanzao show. (10 November 2018, Jan Gerrits)