

# C-145A

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## **Mission**

The C-145A's primary role is to support U.S. Special Operations Command's Aviation Foreign Internal Defense mission to assess, train, advise and assist foreign aviation forces in airpower employment, sustainment and force integration. Secondly, the C-145As provide the theater Special Operations Commands a light mobility capability. These mission sets are conducted by AFSOC's Combat Aviation Advisors.

## **Features**

The C-145A is a twin-engine, high-wing aircraft with twin vertical fins and a non-retractable tricycle landing gear capable of short takeoff and landings to unprepared runways. The C-145 is reconfigurable to support both airland and airdrop of cargo (max 2,400 lbs) and personnel, casualty evacuation, combat search and rescue, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations. The C-145A can carry a maximum of 16 passengers or 10 combat rigged paratroopers. Maximum cargo weight is 5,000 lbs, or up to four litter patients. Missions can be conducted to prepared and semi-prepared airfields around the world.

## **Background**

The C-145A aircraft was originally bought to support the non-standard aviation mission in 2009. In 2010, Congress authorized the purchase of 16 light twin engine aircraft to support the AvFID mission. As a result, the C-145A was selected for this role. The aircraft has been continually deployed since March 2011. The Air Force Special Operations Warfare Center currently has 10 C-145As and is scheduled to receive its final six aircraft by April 2014.

## **General Characteristics**

Primary Function: Aviation Foreign Internal Defense and light mobility

**Builder:** PZL Mielec

**Power Plant:** Two Pratt and Whitney PT6A-65B Turboprops

**Thrust:** Takeoff power 1,100 shaft horsepower

**Wingspan:** 72 feet 4 inches

**Length:** 43 feet

**Height:** 16 feet 1 inch

**Max Cruise Speed:** 223 knots

**Max Range:** 1,010 nautical miles

**Service Ceiling:** 25,000 feet (with supplemental oxygen equipment)

**Maximum Takeoff Weight:** 16,534 lbs. (7,500 kgs)

**Crew:** 3 (2 pilots, 1 loadmaster)

**Unit Cost:** Approx. \$14M per aircraft

**Inventory:** Active duty, 10 (End state: 16 by fiscal 2015); Reserve/ANG, 0

(Current as of December 2013)



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