**Cuba Air Force**

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| **Current Title:** | Fuerza Aérea Revolucionara |
| **Title in English:** | Cuban Revolutionary Air Force |
| **Abbreviation:** | FAR |

History

**Narrative Summary:**  
[Summary Narrative History](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-history.htm)

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| **Key Dates:** | | |
| 5 July 1913 |  | Creation of the Cuerpo de Aviación del Ejército de Cuba (CAEC) with one Curtiss Model FS |
| 18 May 1919 |  | 1.Escuadrón of the CAEC with 9 Curtiss JN-4D was formed. |
| 18 April 1932 |  | Aircraft of the CAEC bombarded the town of Gibara, which was subsequently abandoned by the rebellious forces. |
| 1934 |  | The service was divided into the Cuerpo de Aviación del Ejército de Cuba and the Aviación Naval. |
| 23 April 1952 |  | A reorganisation combined both army and naval aviation elements in a semi-autonomous force with the titel Fuerza Aérea del Ejército de Cuba (FAEC). |
| 2 May 1958 |  | Fuerza Aérea Rebelde (FAR) was formed by Fidel Castro. |
| 1 January 1959 |  | Fuerza Aérea Revolucionara (FAR) was formed. |
| 15 to 21 April 1961 |  | Invasion of exil-Cubans at the Bay of Pigs, which failed. |
| October 1962 |  | After Cuban Missile Crisis soviet missiles were withdrawn from Cuba. |
| 1972 |  | Fuerza Aérea Revolucionara got equal status with the Army and Navy. |
| December 1975 |  | Fidel Castro sent a squadron with MiG-17Fs to Angola. |
| 10 September 1977 |  | "Operation Pico": One squadron of MiG-21MFs overflew Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic to press for the release of the merchant ship Capitan Leo, which, enroute to Angola, had violated Dominican waters and been interned by the authorities. |
| Dedember 1977 |  | One squadron of MiG-17s and one squadron of MiG-21bis were sent to Ethiopia. |
| 10 May 1980 |  | Two FAR MiG-21s attacked the Bahamian patrol vessel HMBS Flamingo, which had arrested four Cuban fishing vessels. |
| 6 November 1981 |  | SAAF Mirage F-1 shot down one Mig-21MF in Angola. |
| 3 August 1986 |  | A FAR Mig-21F shot down one C-130 in Angola. |
| 28 October 1987 |  | One MiG-21UM was downed by ground fire near Luvuei in Angola. |
| 27 June 1988 |  | Eleven Cuban MiG-23MLs with demolition bombs appeared over the hydroelectric dam at Ruacana-Calueque in Namibia. The attack was a total success. |
| 1989 |  | Cuban forces withdraw from Angola and Ethiopia. |

**Current Status:**  
Units of the Air Force are fully operational.

**Future Plans:**  
No information available.

Markings

**National Insignia:**  
[Current](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-nat-markings.htm)--- [Historical](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-nat-markings-hist.htm)

**Aircraft Serial Numbering System(s):**  
First serials were allocated to aircraft in 1919. Serials began with number 1 and were used in chronological order as aircraft arrive in the Air Force. From 1928 on serials started again with 1 as most of the present aircraft were destroyed during a cyclone. Prefix CAEC. After a reoganisation in 1955 a new serialling system was introduced, which was in the main applicable to light transports and communication aircraft and never superseded the former system and was distinguished by the use of the prefix FAEC. From 1959 the prefix FAR is used until today.

**Unit/Base Aircraft Code System(s):**  
Coding system not used.

Aircraft

**Aircraft Designation System(s):**  
None.

**Current Aircraft Inventory:**  
[Table of Current Service Aircraft](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af_current_inventory.htm)

**All-Time Aircraft Used List:**  
[Alphabetical Order](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-all-time.htm) --- [Chronological Order](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-all-time-chron.htm)

Organisation

**Main Headquarters:**  
Plaza de la Revolución, La Habana

**Current Organisational Structure:**  
The FAR operates 2 mixed fighter-bomber regiments and 1 transport regiments..

**Current Order of Battle:**  
[Table of Current Order of Battle](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af_current_orbat.htm)

**Historical Orders of Battle:**

[Historical Order of Battle](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-CAEC.htm) (as at 1913)

[Historical Order of Battle](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af_historical_orbat_1939.htm) (as at 1939)

[Historical Order of Battle](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af_historical_orbat_1952.htm) (as at 1952)

[Historical Order of Battle](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af_historical_orbat_1962.htm) (as at 1962)

[Historical Order of Battle](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af_historical_orbat_1988.htm) (as at 1988)

[Historical Order of Battle](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af_historical_orbat_1993.htm) (as at 1993)

**All-Time Flying Units List:** (only units, which are not included in the Orders of Battle)

[Cuerpo de Aviación del Ejército de Cuba](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-CAEC.htm)

[Fuerza Aérea Rebelde](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-FAR.htm)

[1.Escuadrón / Cuerpo de Aviación del Ejército de Cuba](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Esc1-1919.htm)

Air Bases

**Current Air Bases:**  
The Cuban Air Force currently operates 3 mayor airbases and a number of secondary airfields.

[Military Air Bases Listing](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-bases.htm)

**All-Time Air Bases Used List:**  
[Military Air Bases Listing](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-bases-hist.htm)

More Information

**Books:**

Texan and Harvards in Latin America (Dan Hagedorn)

Latin American Fighters (Iñigo Guevara y Moyano)

'**Magazines:**

Air Forces Monthly 5/2006, p.78

World Air Power Journal 32, p.154-155

**Websites:**

[Defensa Nacional](http://www.cubagob.cu/otras_info/minfar/default.htm)

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| **Cuba Air Force**    **Current Service Aircraft:**  Click on aircraft type for more details.   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Aircraft Type** | **Total Delivered** | **Total Now** | **Role** | **Origin** | | [Mikoyan-Gurevich Mig-21M/MF Fishbed J](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mig21MF.htm) | 12/12 | 4 | Fighter | Russia | | [Mikoyan-Gurevich Mig-23MF Flogger B](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mig23MF.htm) | 12 | 4 | Fighter | Russia | | [Mikoyan-Gurevich Mig-23ML Flogger G](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mig23ML.htm) | 54 | 7 | Fighter | Russia | | [Mikoyan-Gurevich Mig-29B Fulcrum A](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mig29B.htm) | 6 | 2 | Fighter | Russia | | [Mil Mi-17 Hip H](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mi17.htm) | 25 | 9 | Attack | Russia | | [Mil Mi-24 Hind D](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mi24.htm) | 24 | 4 | Attack | Russia | | [Antonov An-24 Coke](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-An24.htm) | 20 | 3 | Transport | Russia | | [Yakovlev Yak-40 Codling](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Yak40.htm) | 8 | 3 | Transport | Russia | | [Ilyushin Il-62 Classic](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Il62.htm) | 1 | 1 | VIP Transport | Russia | | [Ilyushin Il-96](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Il96.htm) | 2 | 2 | VIP Transport | Russia | | [Mil Mi-8 Hip C/E/F](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mi8.htm) | 20/20/20 | 2 | Transport/Attack | Russia | | [Mikoyan-Gurevich Mig-21U/UM Mongol B](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mig21UM.htm) | 4/6 | 7 | Training | Russia | | [Mikoyan-Gurevich Mig-23UM Flogger C](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mig23UM.htm) | 7 | 4 | Training | Russia | | [Mikoyan-Gurevich Mig-29UB Fulcrum B](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-Mig29UB.htm) | 2 | 1 | Training | Russia | | [Aero L-39C Albatros](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-af-L39C.htm) | 30 | 5 | Training | Czechoslovakia | |
| |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  |  |  | | **First Created: 1 November 2003 - Last Revised: 1 December 2009** | | | | | | **Copyright © 2003 Erich Klaus.   e-mail: erich.klaus@a1.net** | | | | | |

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| Latin American Air Forces This is the index page for the Aeroflight Guide to the Air Forces of the Central and South American Nations. The current aircraft inventory, and order of battle, for each air arm (Air Force, Naval Aviation, Coast Guard etc) is tabulated, together with brief historical notes and other details for each country.  Quick jump: [A](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/latin.htm#A#A) B [C](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/latin.htm#C#C) [D](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/latin.htm#D#D) E F [G](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/latin.htm#G#G) [H](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/latin.htm#H#H) I J K L [M](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/latin.htm#M#M) N O P Q R [S](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/latin.htm#S#S) T U [V](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/latin.htm#V#V) W X Y Z  List Of Countries:-   * A * [Argentina](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/arg/Argentina-Home.htm) * [Bahamas](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/bahamas/Bahamas-Home.htm) * [Belize](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/belize/Belize-Home.htm) * [Bolivia](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/bolivia/Bolivia-Home.htm) * [Brazil](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/brazil/bra-home.htm) * C * [Chile](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/chile/Chile-Home.htm) * [Colombia](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/colombia/Colombia-Home.htm) * [Costa Rica](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/costa_rica/Costa_Rica-Home.htm) * [Cuba](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/cuba/Cuba-Home.htm) * D * [Dominican Republic](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/dominican_rep/DomRep-Home.htm) * [Ecuador](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/ecuador/Ecuador-Home.htm) * [El Salvador](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/el_salvador/El_Salvador-Home.htm) * G * [Guatemala](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/guatemala/Guatemala-Home.htm) * [Guyana](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/guyana/Guyana-Home.htm) * H * [Haiti](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/haiti/Haiti-Home.htm) * [Honduras](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/honduras/Honduras-Home.htm) * [Jamaica](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/jamaica/Jamaica-Home.htm) * M * [Mexico](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/mexico/mex-home.htm) * [Nicaragua](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/nicaragua/Nicaragua-Home.htm) * [Panama](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/panama/Panama-Home.htm) * [Paraguay](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/paraguay/Paraguay-Home.htm) * [Peru](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/peru/Peru-Home.htm) * S * [Suriname](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/suriname/Suriname-Home.htm) * [Trinidad & Tobago](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/trinidad/Trinidad+Tobago-Home.htm) * [Uruguay](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/uruguay/Uruguay-Home.htm) * V * [Venezuela](http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/americas/venezuela/Venezuela-Home.htm) |
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