



## **160<sup>TH</sup> SPECIAL OPERATIONS AVIATION REGIMENT**

### ***FACT SHEET***

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
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## **MH-47 CHINOOK HELICOPTER**

The MH-47 Chinook helicopter conducts overt and covert infiltrations, exfiltrations, air assault, resupply, and sling-load operations over a wide range of environmental conditions. The aircraft can perform a variety of other missions including shipboard operations, platform operations, urban operations, water operations, parachute operations, forward arming and refueling point operations, mass casualty, and combat search and rescue operations. With the use of special mission equipment and night vision devices, MH-47 aircrews can operate in hostile mission environments over all types of terrain at low altitudes during periods of low visibility and low ambient lighting conditions with pinpoint navigation accuracy. The 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) currently operates two variants of the Chinook helicopter:



The **MH-47E** is a heavy assault helicopter based on the CH-47 airframe, but specifically designed and built for the special operations aviation mission. It has a totally integrated avionics subsystem. This avionics package combines redundant avionics architecture with dual mission processors, remote terminal units, multifunction displays and display generators to improve combat survivability and mission reliability. The “Echo” model also has an aerial refueling probe for in-flight refueling, an external rescue hoist, and two L714 turbine engines with a Full Authority Digital Electronic Control that provides more power during hot or high-altitude environmental conditions.

The **MH-47D Adverse Weather Cockpit** Chinook is a twin engine, tandem rotor, heavy assault helicopter that has been specifically modified for long-range flights. It is equipped with weather avoidance/search radar; an aerial refueling probe for in flight refueling; a Personnel Locator System for finding downed aircrews; Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR); secure voice communications; a Fast Rope Insertion Extraction System (FRIES) for insertion of personnel and equipment and extraction of personnel; a defensive armament system consisting of two M-134 “Minigun” machine guns and one M-60D machine gun; and an internal rescue hoist.

### **MH-47D and MH-47E Performance Characteristics**

Normal cruise airspeed: 120 knots  
Maximum dash airspeed: 170 knots  
Normal fuel burn rate: 2750 lbs per hour  
Maximum altitude: 20,000 feet