

State Department Approves Possible Sale of MH-60R Helos to New Zealand



An MH-60R Seahawk, attached to Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 71, takes off the flight deck of Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), June 5, 2026. Abraham Lincoln is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations to support maritime security and stability in the Middle East. (U.S. Navy photo)

By Richard R. Burgess, Senior Editor

ARLINGTON, Va. –The U.S. Department of State has approved the possible Foreign Military Sale of 'Lockheed Martin MH-60R Seahawk helicopters to the government of New Zealand, the department said in a June 5 release.

The Government of New Zealand has requested five MH-60Rs and associated equipment and weapons for an estimated cost of \$1.5

billion. The sale would include engines, avionics, sonar systems, radars, sonobuoys, electronic surveillance systems, spares, ground support equipment, flight simulators, technical manuals, and support services, among other support. Weapons would include Hellfire and Advanced Precision Kill Weapon Systems and M240D machine guns.

The sale would bring to ten the number of air arms operating or soon to operate the MH-60R, the others being the U.S. Navy, Royal Australian Navy, Royal Danish Air Force, Hellenic Navy, Indian Navy, Norwegian Coast Guard, Republic of Korea Navy, Royal Saudi Navy, and Spanish Navy.