



M48 Chemical-Biological Apache Aviator Mask

M48

Description

The M48 Chemical-Biological (CB) Apache Aviator Mask was developed for the AH-64 Apache Helicopter aviators for U.S. Army and Foreign Military Sales (FMS) customer use. The M48 was designed for compatibility with the Integrated Helmet and Display Sighting System (IHADSS) and the Optical Relay Tube subsystems of the Apache. The M48 Mask has a lightweight motor blower that is mounted on the user during dismounted operations and is mounted to the airframe during flight operations. The motor blower provides filtered, breathable air that keeps the head cool and prevents the eye lenses from fogging. The Mask Protective Unit-6 (MPU-6(V)/P) is the replacement respirator for the M48.



Mission

To provide face, eye and respiratory protection from battlefield concentrations of CB agents, toxins and radioactive particulate matter.

Capabilities

- Compatible with Apache sighting system
- Provides protection factor greater than 10,000 for 90% of personnel
- Battery powers blower for a minimum of eight hours on low speed and five hours on high speed
- Quick release mounting bracket allows motor blower to be removed during emergency egress scenario
- Improvements Over the M43 CB Aircrew Mask:
 - ~ Standard U.S. Army battery
 - ~ Improved emergency egress capability
 - ~ 69% weight reduction (blower and battery)

Users

US Army

Status

Sustainment

This Fact Sheet was cleared for public release on 3/7/2012.

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