

Portugal's Plans

AFM assisted by the MIAS talks exclusively to Portuguese Air Force Chief of Staff, General Corbal about the future



Above: A FAP G.91R of Jaguares 301 Esquadron based at Montijo, one of the types flown by Gen Corbal. FAP G.91s saw combat in Guinea, Angola and Mozambique.

Below: Another type flown by Gen Corbal is the T-38A Talon of Esquadron 103 (EJCAC) based at Beja. (Photos Marnix Sap/MIAS)



What changes can the Portuguese Air Force expect to introduce by the year 2000?

By 1999, all the A-7s will have been retired and I hope that we will have acquired another squadron of F-16s by then comprising either 20 brand new aircraft or 25 second hand examples. All our requirements however, have been submitted to the Government in our six year 1998-2003 investment plan, which they must sanction.

Our C-130H Hercules are now nearly 20 years old and we would eventually like to replace them with the C-130J. Most of the CASA 212s will have been retired by the turn of the century but as of yet we have not