

*Right: Grupo Aéreo de Transporte 71 flies from El Alto, La Paz, on a variety of transport duties. These include airline-style operations serving remote communities under the title Transporte Aéreo Militar. The group has two squadrons: Escuadrón 711 operates the Lockheed C-130B/H, while Escuadrón 712 has a variety of airliner types. Among these are three immaculate Convair CV-580s, the first of which entered service in December 1974. The trio works hard on TAM operations into the interior.*



*Above and above right: The sturdy structure, reliability and economic operations of the Fokker F27-400M are appreciated by the FAB, which has three assigned to Escuadrón 712 of GAT 71. The aircraft are mostly operated on TAM services, which often involves flying to hot-and-high destinations.*

*Right: Grupo Aéreo de Transporte 72 flies this CASA 212-200 Aviocar from its base at Trinidad. Its main role is to connect outlying villages in the Beni region with the main town under the TAM umbrella. An IAI Arava used by the unit was lost in October 1998.*



*Below: The Servicio Nacional de Aerofotogrametría (national aerial photo-survey service) – also known as Grupo Aéreo de Exploración y Reconocimiento 81 – operates on a commercial basis from El Alto. The most important aircraft in the fleet are two Learjets: this Learjet 25A and a Learjet 25D. Both were purchased in the 1970s and continue to provide excellent service in the mapping role, equipped with various Wild cameras or a Zeiss RMK unit. As well this primary role, the pair is also used, when required, for fast VIP transport of the air force commander and other high-ranking staff.*

