OVERVIEW

The Merlin was an evolution of earlier aircraft programme performed by Swearingen Aircraft.
Ed Swearingen started the developments that led to the Merlin through gradual modifications to the Beechcraft Twin Bonanza and Queen Air business aircraft which he dubbed Excalibur. Then hybrid aircraft was developed, with a new fuselage and vertical fin, mated to salvaged and modified Queen Air wings and horizontal tails, and Twin Bonanza landing gear.
The aircraft is fitted with a suite of equipment to allow it perform maritime surveillance.
Furthermore, the Merlin has been employed in the previous EUNAVFOR MED Operation SOPHIA from 2015 to 2020.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Aircraft: Swearingen - Fairchild Aircraft
Length: 12,85 m
Wingspan: 14,10 m
Height: 5,13 m
Max take-off weight: 6,000 kg
Speed: 556 km/hr or 300 knots
Endurance: 6,30 hrs