

[Phalcon AWACS to arrive on May 24](#)

Hindu, 21 May 2009

Jerusalem: Barring a last-minute hiccup, the Indian Air Force (IAF) pilots will fly home the first of the three Phalcon Airborne Early Warning and Control Systems (AWACS) on Sunday, making India the first country in the South-Asian region to have this capability. "It's ready to leave on May 24 for Jamnagar," defence sources said here on Wednesday. The delivery of the multi-billion dollar aircraft was scheduled for May 18, but last minute technical check-ups delayed its departure

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/21/stories/2009052155271100.htm>

[IAF to get its first AWACS on Monday](#)

Hindu, 23 May 2009

NEW DELHI: The first Indian Air Force AWACS (Airborne Warning and Control System) platform, which is set to alter the dimension of the see-through capability of the IAF beyond conventional visions of ground-based and tethered electromagnetic sensors, will arrive in India on May 25. On its maiden flight from Israel to India, the veritable flying-giant with an all-pervasive electromagnetic vision will land at Jamnagar, Gujarat, and arrive at the Palam airport the following day

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/23/stories/2009052358600100.htm>

[China bigger threat than Pakistan, says IAF chief](#)

Times of India, 24 May 2009

NEW DELHI: India faces a greater threat from China than Pakistan because New Delhi knows little about Beijing's combat capabilities, India's air force chief told a newspaper in an interview published on Sunday. The world's two most populous nations fought a brief but brutal war over their 3,500 km (2,200 mile) Himalayan border in 1962, and both sides claim the other is occupying big but largely uninhabited chunks of their territory. India has also been pursuing closer relations with the United States

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/China-bigger-threat-than-Pakistan-IAF-chief/articleshow/4571491.cms>

[First AWACS aircraft lands at Jamnagar air base in Gujarat](#)

Hindu, 26 May 2009

NEW DELHI: The first of three Indian Air Force AWACS (Airborne Warning and Control System) platform aircraft touched down at the Jamnagar air base in Gujarat on Monday afternoon, flying in from Israel. The giant II-76 configured in its new version was escorted by three MiG-29 and Jaguar aircraft each. The fighter formation took off from an advance fighter airbase of the South Western Air Command (SWAC). They caught up with the AWACS mid-air and escorted it as it entered the Indian Flight Information Region, till it made it home safely, IAF spokesman Wing Commander Tarun Kumar Singha said here

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/26/stories/2009052655811000.htm>

[IAF drops Russia from \\$1 bn deal](#)

Hindustan Times, 26 May 2009

Russia is set to lose a billion dollar (Rs 48,000 crore) defence deal for midair refuellers, signalling a break in its over 50-year-old monopoly as India's preferred

military supplier. The former communist giant has clearly lost favour with the Indian military, as the air force has decided not to field any more Russian Ilyushin-78 refuellers to keep fighter jets airborne for considerably longer periods by tanking them up during flight

[http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/StoryPage.aspx?sectionName=IndiaSectionPage&id=dade59fe-cce1-467f-9282-c4707edd9c80&Headline=IAF+drops+Russia+from+\\$1+bn+deal](http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/StoryPage.aspx?sectionName=IndiaSectionPage&id=dade59fe-cce1-467f-9282-c4707edd9c80&Headline=IAF+drops+Russia+from+$1+bn+deal)

[MiG-21 crashes](#)

Hindu, 28 May 2009

JODHPUR: In the third fighter aircraft accident in less than a month, a MiG-21 'Bison' crashed at Luni village near here on Wednesday, but the pilot ejected to safety. — PTI

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/28/stories/2009052857570100.htm>

[Is it a bird? Is it a plane? IAF orders DNA tests](#)

Indian Express, 31 May 2009

This is one test the Indian Air Force thought it would never have to conduct. With bird-hits threatening its aircraft at impossible altitudes and unlikely locations, the IAF has decided to use DNA testing to determine which birds are these that fly so high and get lodged in engines and aircraft airframes

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/is-it-a-bird-is-it-a-plane-iaf-orders-dna-tests/468631/>