

been issued under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Researchers will capture 500 sturgeon annually from the Kennebec River using gillnets. Sturgeon will be measured, weighed, tissue sampled, Passive Integrated Transponder tagged, and released. A sample of sturgeon will be acoustic tagged. Researchers will also sample for eggs and larvae. The permit is issued for five-years.

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of any endangered or

threatened species, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: November 15, 2006.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E6–19652 Filed 11–20–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 07–05]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of a section 36(b)(1) arms sales notification. This is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104–164 dated 21 July 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. J. Hurd, DSCA/DBO/CFM, (703) 604–6575.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 07–05 with attached transmittal, policy justification, and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: November 14, 2006.

C.R. Choate,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5001–06–M



DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2800

13 NOV 2006

**In reply refer to:
I-06/010480**

**The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6501**

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 07-05, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.5 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a press statement to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. B. Kohler".

JEFFREY B. KOHLER
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, USAF
DIRECTOR

Enclosures:

- 1. Transmittal**
- 2. Policy Justification**
- 3. Sensitivity of Technology**

Same ltr to:

House

**Committee on International Relations
Committee on Armed Services
Committee on Appropriations**

Senate

**Committee on Foreign Relations
Committee on Armed Services
Committee on Appropriations**

Transmittal No. 07-05

**Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer
Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1)
of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended**

- (i) Prospective Purchaser: Saudi Arabia
- (ii) Total Estimated Value:
- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Major Defense Equipment* | \$ 800 million |
| Other | \$ <u>700 million</u> |
| TOTAL | \$1,500 million |
- (iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Either option or a combination of: a) 155 General Electric (GE) F110-GE129 engines in support of F-15S aircraft; b) 20 Pratt & Whitney (P&W) F100-PW229 engines to restore/refurbish the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF) current inventory of P&W engines; support equipment; engine improvement program services; flight tests; Technical Coordination Group/International Engine Management; Hush House refurbishment; aircraft integration; program management; publications; trainers; mission planning; training; spare and repair parts; repair and return services; contractor technical assistance and other related elements of logistics support.
- (iv) Military Department: Air Force (QDF)
- (v) Prior Related Cases, if any: FMS case SRC - \$ 9 billion - 05May93
- (vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: none
- (vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Annex attached.
- (viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: 13 NOV 2006

* as defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Saudi Arabia – General Electric and Pratt & Whitney Engines

The Government of Saudi Arabia has requested a possible sale of either option or a combination of: a) 155 General Electric (GE) F110-GE129 engines in support of F-15S aircraft; b) 20 Pratt & Whitney (P&W) F100-PW229 engines to restore/refurbish the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF) current inventory of P&W engines; support equipment; engine improvement program services; flight tests; Technical Coordination Group/International Engine Management; Hush House refurbishment; aircraft integration; program management; publications; trainers; mission planning; training; spare and repair parts; repair and return services; contractor technical assistance and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$1.5 billion.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States (U.S.) by helping to improve the security of a friendly country that has been and continues to be an important force for political stability and economic process in the Middle East. The proposed sale will help overcome an ongoing sustainment problem with RSAF's F-15S engines that has affected their air operations. The RSAF is considering re-engining its 70 F-15S aircraft, or undertaking a massive recovery/re-sustainment plan of the current engines, or a combination of both. The potential sale will further U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives by increasing RSAF F-15S aircraft operational capability, sustainability, and interoperability with USAF. The relationships built during future flight training operations will enhance the USAF's influence and access within the Kingdom. Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty implementing either option or combination thereof.

The replacement or restoration of F-15S engines will facilitate sustained RSAF interoperability with the USAF and enhance the RSAF's ability to participate in coalition operations within the Gulf Cooperation Council region. The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not affect the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be General Electric Corporation of Fairfield, Connecticut and/or Pratt and Whitney of East Hartford, Connecticut. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will potentially require the assignment of up to 10 U.S. Government representatives and up to 10 contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia for approximately one week, semi-annually to participate in program support and technical reviews. Implementation of this sale also will potentially require the assignment of several U.S. Government Quality Assurance Teams to Saudi Arabia for

two weeks to assist in the delivery and deployment of the engines. In addition, there potentially will be approximately 15 contractors in Saudi Arabia providing technical assistance on a full time basis.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

Transmittal No. 07-05

**Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer
Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1)
of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended**

**Annex
Item No. vii**

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The General Electric F110-GE129 engine is releasable to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). No design and manufacturing data, hot section data/drawings, and Full Authority Digital Electronic Engine Control design, development, fabrication, application software definition or overhaul technology are to be released. Proprietary data will be releasable only with manufacturer's consent. Re-engineering of parts is not authorized. Maintenance is limited to removing, replacing, and patching specific non-hot section engine components. Supporting drawings, procedures, equipment and training required to return unserviceable equipment to operational condition is authorized. Disclosure of data is limited to country specific program requirements. Performance data will be in tabular look-up format. Flight and Test data will be in "met/not met, or exceeding specification requirements" format.

2. The Pratt & Whitney F100-PW-229 engine was previously released to the KSA as part of the F-15S system. There is no sensitivity of technology associated with the additional engine core sales in accordance with the previously approved sale criteria.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

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BILLING CODE 5001-06-C

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 07-04]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of a section 36(b)(1) arms sales notification. This is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104-164 dated 21 July 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. J. Hurd, DSCA/DBO/CFM, (703) 604-6575.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 07-04 with attached transmittal and policy justification.

Dated: November 14, 2006.

C.R. Choate,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5006-06-M