Dated: June 25, 2008.

Emily H. Menashes

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service. [FR Doc. E8–14834 Filed 6–30–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal Nos. 08-68]

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. B. English, DSCA/DBO/CFM, (703) 601–3740.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittals 08–68 with attached transmittal, and policy justification.

June 23, 2008.

Patricia L. Toppings,

OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M



DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY 2800 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2800

JUN 1 7 2008 In reply refer to: USP007479-08

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-6501

Dear Madam 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.

08-68, concerning the Department of the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Canada for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$114 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a press statement to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Enclosures:

1. Transmittal

2. Policy Justification

Same ltr to:

House
Committee on Foreign Affairs

Committee on Armed Services Committee on Appropriations

Senate

Tiral. USN

Committee on Foreign Relations Committee on Armed Services Committee on Appropriations

Transmittal No. 08-68

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: Canada
- (ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$112 million
Other \$2 million
TOTAL \$114 million

- (iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: 37 M777 155MM Light-Weight Towed Howitzers, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, maintenance, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representatives' technical assistance, engineering and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support.
- (iv) Military Department: Navy (LIL)
- (v) Prior Related Cases, if any: FMS Case LHV-\$17M-28Oct05 FMS Case LIA-\$18M-17Oct06
- (vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: none
- (vii) <u>Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense</u> <u>Services Proposed to be Sold</u>: none
- (viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: JUN 1 7 2008

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Canada - M777 155mm Light-Weight Towed Howitzers

The Government of Canada has requested a possible sale of 37 M777 155MM Light-Weight Towed Howitzers, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, maintenance, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representatives' technical assistance, engineering and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$114 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the military capabilities of Canada and the Canadian military's interoperability with U.S. forces. Canadian deployments in support of peacekeeping and humanitarian operations have enhanced global political and economic stability and have served U.S. national security interests.

This proposed sale would greatly contribute to Canada's military capability by making it a more sustainable coalition force to support the Global War on Terror. Canada currently operates the M777 lightweight howitzers and will use these new howitzers to protect its deployed troops, and give them the ability to operate in hazardous conditions. Canada will have no difficulty absorbing the howitzers into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not affect the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractors will be: BAE Land Systems in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and Howmet Castings, Alcoa Business in Whitehall, Michigan. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

The proposed sale requires engineering technical support for approximately two U.S. government representatives and five contractor representatives for one year.

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