

TABLE 1: ESTIMATED CATCH AND DISCARD BY SPECIES

Species	Harvested		Discarded	
	lb	kg	lb	kg
Cod	4,000	1,814	700	318
Winter Flounder	2,000	907	100	45
Gray Sole	1,000	454	100	45
American Plaice	1,000	454	100	45
Yellowtail Flounder	200	91	20	9
Monkfish	200	91	20	9
White Hake	400	181	100	45
Lobster	0	0	200	91
Dogfish	0	0	5,000	2,268
Skates	0	0	2,000	907

All at-sea research would be conducted from three fishing vessels, each of which would be fishing in a different area. This EFP would cover two vessels, the F/V Barbara & Lyn (permit # 230151, O.N. 552653) and the F/V Holly & Abby (permit # 250467, O.N. 590567). A third vessel, the F/V Capt. Al (permit # 221462, O.N. 693618), has previously been issued a separate EFP in the form of an extension. The F/V Barbara & Lyn would fish north of 42°10' N. lat., and west of 69°00' W. long. The F/V Holly & Abby would fish south of 42°40' N. lat., and west of 70°00' W. long. Both vessels would fish exclusively outside the Western GOM Closed Area. Researchers have asked for an exemption to the regulations at 50 CFR 648.81(f) establishing the GOM Rolling Closure Areas I, II, III, IV, and V because they believe that an optimum mixture of flounders and cod for testing the experimental gear will be present in the waters of the Western GOM during May and June. All research would be conducted using A DAS.

The applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: April 5, 2006.

Alan D. Risenhoover,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable
Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E6-5323 Filed 4-10-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 06-22]

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/ADM, (703) 604-6575.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 06-22 with attached transmittal and policy justification.

Dated: April 5, 2006.

L.M. Bynum,
OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M



DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2800

In reply refer to:
I-06/003063

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 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. 06-22, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Australia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$2 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 cursive script, reading "Richard J. Willies".

Richard J. Willies
Deputy 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. 06-22

**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:** Australia
- (ii) **Total Estimated Value:**

Major Defense Equipment*	\$.983 billion
Other	<u>\$1.017 billion</u>
TOTAL	\$2.000 billion
- (iii) **Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:** up to four C-17 GLOBEMASTER III aircraft, up to 18 Pratt & Whitney F117-PW-100 engines, up to four AN/AAQ-24V(13) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) Systems, up to 15 AN/AVS-9 Night Vision Goggles; Personnel Life Support equipment, spare and repair parts, supply support, training equipment, publications and technical data, United States Government and contractor technical assistance and other related elements of logistics support.
- (iv) **Military Department:** Air Force (SEN)
- (v) **Prior Related Cases, if any:** none
- (vi) **Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid:** none
- (vii) **Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Articles or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold:** See Annex attached
- (viii) **Date Report Delivered to Congress:** 3 APR 2006

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

Transmittal No. 06-22**POLICY JUSTIFICATION****Australia – C-17 GLOBEMASTER III Aircraft**

The Government of Australia requested a possible sale of up to four C-17 GLOBEMASTER III aircraft, up to 18 Pratt & Whitney F117-PW-100 engines, up to four AN/AAQ-24V(13) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) Systems, up to 15 AN/AVS-9 Night Vision Goggles; Personnel Life Support equipment, spare and repair parts, supply support, training equipment and support, publications and technical data, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$2 billion.

Australia is one of our most important allies in the Western Pacific. The strategic location of this political and economic power contributes significantly to ensuring peace and economic stability in the region. Australia's efforts in operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, peacekeeping, and humanitarian operations have made a significant impact to regional, political, and economic stability and have served U.S. national security interests. This proposed sale is consistent with those objectives and facilitates burden sharing with our allies.

Australia does not currently have a heavy airlift capability and must rely on outside sources for these services. This assistance normally takes the form of either U.S. Air Force airlift or contract carriers that use Russian heavy airlift aircraft. The C-17 will greatly improve Australia's capability to rapidly deploy in support of global coalition operations and will also greatly enhance its ability to lead regional humanitarian/peacekeeping operations.

Australia has the ability to absorb and employ the C-17. It plans on basing the C-17s at Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Base Amberly. RAAF Base Amberly will become the primary base for airlift and tanker aircraft and is currently undergoing the infrastructure upgrades required to support the C-17 and other large aircraft Australia has currently contracted to purchase.

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

This proposed sale will involve the following contractors:

Boeing Company	Long Beach, California
Boeing Company Training Systems	St. Louis, Missouri
AAI Services Corporation	Goose Creek, South Carolina
United Technologies Corporation	East Hartford, Connecticut
Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation	Rolling Meadows, Illinois

Additional subcontractors may be needed depending on the exact nature of the contracting arrangements established. Offset agreements associated with this proposed sale are expected, but at this time the specific offset agreements are undetermined and will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and contractors.

This proposed sale will result in Boeing establishing a facility at RAAF Base Amberly that will provide logistics support for the C-17 under the current GLOBEMASTER Support Partnership. The proposed plan will require seven each U.S. Government and Australian representatives at the facility. Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of up to ten each U.S. Government and contractor representatives to travel to Australia for annual participation in training, program management, and technical review.

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

Transmittal No. 06-22**Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer
Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1)
of the Arms Export Control Act****Annex
Item No. vii****(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:**

1. The Boeing C-17 GLOBEMASTER III military airlift aircraft is the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the U. S. Air Force fleet. The C-17 is capable of rapid strategic delivery of up to 170,900 pounds of personnel and equipment to main operating bases or to forward operating bases. The aircraft is also capable of short field landings with a full cargo load. Finally, the aircraft can perform tactical airlift and airdrop missions and can also transport litters and ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuation when required. A fully integrated electronic cockpit and advanced cargo systems allow a crew of three: the pilot, copilot and loadmaster, to operate the aircraft on any type of mission.

2. The AN/AAQ-24V(13) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasure (LAIRCM) is an active countermeasure system designed to defeat man-portable, shoulder-fired, and vehicle-launched infrared guided missile guidance by directing a high-intensity modulated laser beam into the missile seeker. This aircraft self-protection suite will provide fast and accurate threat detection, processing, tracking, and countermeasures to defeat current and future generation infrared missile threats. LAIRCM is designed for installation on a wide range of fixed-wing aircraft.

3. The AN/AVS-9 Night Vision Goggles (NVG), a 3rd generation aviation device offers a higher resolution, high gain, and photo response to near infrared. Features include independent eye-span adjustment; 25-mm eye relief eyepieces, which easily accommodate eyeglasses, and a low-profile battery pack. Minus-blue filter screens glare from cockpit instrument lighting; and a class B filter (available with some variants) can accommodate aircraft color displays. Other features include: low-distortion optics and automatic brightness control. The Night Vision Imaging System (NVIS) modification includes cockpit modifications to provide NVG-compatible cockpit lighting that optimizes NVG sensitivity, as well as external lighting capable of operating in a covert mode wherein only NVG-equipped personnel can see the aircraft external lighting. The hardware, technical data, and documentation to be provided are Unclassified.

4. The AN/ALE-47 Counter-Measures Dispensing System (CMDS) is an integrated, threat-adaptive, software-programmable dispensing system capable of dispensing chaff, flares and active radio frequency expendables. The threats countered by the CMDS include radar-directed anti-aircraft artillery (AAA), radar command-guided missiles, radar homing guided missiles, and infrared (IR) guided missiles. The system is internally mounted and may be operated as a stand-alone system or may be integrated with other on-board electronic warfare and avionics systems. The AN/ALE-47 uses threat data received over the aircraft interfaces to assess the threat situation and to determine a response. Expendable routines tailored to the immediate aircraft and threat environment may be dispensed using one of four operational modes. The hardware, technical data, and documentation to be provided are Unclassified.

5. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

[FR Doc. 06-3446 Filed 4-10-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-C

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 06-18]

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/ADM, (703) 604-6575.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 06-18 with attached transmittal, policy justification, and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: April 5, 2006.

L.M. Bynum,
OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M