

supporting each proposed certification includes the following:

(1) A draft memorandum by the meteorologist(s)-in-charge recommending the certification, the final of which will be endorsed by the Regional Director and the Assistant Administrator of the NWS is appropriate, after consideration of public comments and completion of consultation with the Modernization Transition Committee (the Committee);

(2) a description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns which affect the weather services provided within the service area;

(3) a comparison of the services provided within the service area and the services to be provided after such action;

(4) a description of any recent or expected modernization of NWS operation which will enhance services in the service area;

(5) an identification of any area within the affected service area which would not receive coverage (at an elevation of 10,000 feet) by the next generation weather radar network;

(6) evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, which was considered in reaching the conclusion that no degradation in service will result from such action including the WSR-88D Radar Commissioning Report(s), User Confirmation of Services Report(s), and the Decommissioning Readiness Report (as applicable); and

(7) evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, which was considered in reaching the conclusion that no degradation in service will result from such action including the ASOS

Commissioning Report; series of three letters between NWS and FAA confirming that weather services will continue in full compliance with applicable flight aviation rules after ASOS commissioning; Surface Aviation Observation Transition Checklist documenting transfer of augmentation and backup responsibility from NWS to FAA; successful resolution of ASOS user confirmation of services complaints; and an inplace supplementary data program at the responsible WFO(s).

(8) a letter appointing the liaison officer.

These proposed certifications do not include any report of the Committee which could be submitted in accordance with sections 706(b)(6) and 707 of Public Law 102-567. At their December 14, 1995 meeting the Committee members “* * * resolved that the MTC modify its procedure to eliminate proposed certification consultations of noncontroversial closing, consolidations, relocations, and automation certifications but will provide final consultation on certifications after public comment and before final submission to the Secretary of Commerce.”

The above actions all are considered noncontroversial by the NWS. Also these proposed certifications do not include the documentation supporting them which is too voluminous to publish. Copies of the supporting documentation can be obtained through the contact listed above.

Once all public comments have been received and considered, the NWS will complete consultation with the Committee and determine whether to proceed with the final certification. If a decision to certify is made, the Secretary

of Commerce must publish the final certification in the FR and transmit the certification to the appropriate Congressional committees prior to automating and consolidating these offices.

Dated: October 1, 1996.
Elbert W. Friday, Jr.,
Assistant Administrator for Weather Services.
[FR Doc. 96-25520 Filed 10-3-96; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 96-75]

36(b) Notification

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Defense Security Assistance Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. A. Urban, DSAA/COMPT/FPD, (703) 604-6575.

The following is a copy of the letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 96-75, with attached transmittal and policy justification pages.

Dated: October 1, 1996.

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

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M



DEFENSE SECURITY ASSISTANCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2800

26 SEP 1996

In reply refer to:
I-04278/96ct

Honorable Newt Gingrich
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, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 96-75, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) to Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$2.5 billion. Soon after this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to notify the news media.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thomas G. Rhame", is positioned above the typed name.

Thomas G. Rhame
Lieutenant General, USA
Director

Attachments

Same ltr to: House Committee on International Relations
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
House Committee on National Security
Senate Committee on Armed Services
House Committee on Appropriations

Transmittal No. 96-75

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

- (i) Prospective Purchaser: Saudi Arabia
- (ii) Total Estimated Value:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Major Defense Equipment* | \$ 0 billion |
| Other | <u>\$2.5 billion</u> |
| TOTAL | \$2.5 billion |
- (iii) Description of Articles or Services Offered:

A continuation of contractor maintenance and training services to sustain/support the Royal Saudi Air Force air defense/C³ system (command, control and communication system) to include operations, software support, training, maintenance, system hardware/software modifications/enhancements, facility operations and other related elements of program support necessary to ensure RSAF/USAF interoperability in joint or coalition operations.
- (iv) Military Department: Air Force (DMS)
- (v) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None
- (vi) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold:

None
- (vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: 26 SEP 1996

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATIONSaudi Arabia - Continuation of Contractor Maintenance and Training Services

The Government of Saudi Arabia has requested the purchase of services relating to the continuation of contractor maintenance and training services to sustain/support the Royal Saudi Air Force air defense/C³ system (command, control and communication system) to include operations, software support, training, maintenance, system hardware/software modifications/enhancements, facility operations and other related elements of program support necessary to ensure RSAF/USAF interoperability in joint or coalition operations. The estimated cost is \$2.5 billion

This sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security and self-defense of a friendly country.

The Royal Saudi Air Force will use the contractor provided services to maintain the operational capabilities of the air defense/C³ system (command, control and communications). The contractor services will provide for a continuation of the required support from 1 June 1997 through 31 May 2002.

The contractor maintenance and training technical services will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor(s) will be selected through U.S. Government competitive procurement procedures. There are no offset agreements proposed to be entered into in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this sale will require the assignment of approximately 25 U.S. Government personnel and 300 contractor representatives in-Kingdom for the five year support period starting June 1997. These projected personnel requirements are approximately the same as the current number of personnel providing similar in-kingdom program support.

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