DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 98–60]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Defense Security Assistance Agency, DOD.

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 Pub. L. 104–164 dated July 21, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. J. Hurd, DSAA/COMPT/RM, (703) 604–6575.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 98–60, with attached transmittal and policy justification.

Dated: September 29, 1998.

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

22 SEP 1998

In reply refer to:
I-72451/98

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. 98-60 and under separate cover the classified annex thereto. This Transmittal concerns the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) to Israel 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 of the unclassified portion of this Transmittal.

Sincerely,

A.R. KELTZ
ACTING DIRECTOR

Attachments

Separate Cover:
Classified Annex

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. 98-60

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Israel

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment*	$ 1.9 billion
Other	$ .6 billion
TOTAL	$ 2.5 billion

(iii) Description of Articles or Services Offered:
Sixty F-16C/D Block 50/52 aircraft; 60 AN/APG-68(V)7 or AN/APG-68(V)X radar; and 30 each LANTIRN navigation and targeting pods. All aircraft will be configured with either the F100-PW-229 or F110-GE-129 engines by direct commercial sale; Night Vision Goggle compatible cockpits; conformal fuel tanks; and the capability to employ the AIM-120, AIM-9, and a wide variety of air-to-surface munitions. Associated support equipment, software development/integration, spares and repair parts, flight test instrumentation, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics personnel services, and other related requirements to ensure full program supportability will also be provided.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (SPF)

(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:
See Annex under separate cover.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: 22 SEP 1998

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Israel - F-16C/D Aircraft

The Government of Israel has requested a possible sale of 60 F-16C/D Block 50/52 aircraft; 60 AN/APG-68(V)7 or AN/APG-68(V)X radar; and 30 each LANTIRN navigation and targeting pods. All aircraft will be configured with either the F100-PW-229 or F110-GE-129 engines by direct commercial sale; Night Vision Goggle compatible cockpits; conformal fuel tanks; and the capability to employ the AIM-120, AIM-9; and a wide variety of air-to-surface munitions. Associated support equipment, software development/integration, spares and repair parts, flight test instrumentation, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics personnel services, and other related requirements to ensure full program supportability will also be provided. The estimated cost is $2.5 billion.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country which has been and continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

Israel needs these aircraft to augment its present operational inventory and to enhance its air-to-air and air-to-ground self defense capability. The F-16 enhances Israel's ability to defend itself and supports U.S. regional objectives for Israel's national security and maintenance of Israel's qualitative edge. Israel, which already has F-16 aircraft in its inventory, will have no difficulty absorbing these additional aircraft.

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

The prime contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation, Orlando, Florida. Under this sale, the contractor will incur offset obligations under an existing industrial cooperation agreement.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government personnel to Israel. A number of U.S. contractor representatives, to be determined during program implementation, will be required in Israel to conduct Contractor Engineering Technical Services (CETS) for a three-year period after aircraft delivery.

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

[FR Doc. 98–26519 Filed 10–2–98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 5000–04–C