

species in the specified geographic region.

Based on the analysis contained herein of the likely effects of the specified activity on marine mammals and their habitat, and taking into consideration the implementation of the mitigation and monitoring measures, NMFS finds that SIO's planned research activities, will result in the incidental take of small numbers of marine mammals, by Level B harassment only, and that the total taking from the marine seismic survey will have a negligible impact on the affected species or stocks of marine mammals; and that impacts to affected species or stocks of marine mammals have been mitigated to the lowest level practicable.

Impact on Availability of Affected Species or Stock for Taking for Subsistence Uses

Section 101(a)(5)(D) also requires NMFS to determine that the authorization will not have an unmitigable adverse effect on the availability of marine mammal species or stocks for subsistence use. There are no relevant subsistence uses of marine mammals in the study area (offshore waters of the south-eastern Pacific Ocean off of Chile) that implicate MMPA section 101(a)(5)(D).

Endangered Species Act

Of the species of marine mammals that may occur in the survey area, several are listed as endangered under the ESA, including the humpback, sei, fin, blue, and sperm whale. Under section 7 of the ESA, NSF initiated and engaged in formal consultation with the NMFS, Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Act Interagency Cooperation Division, on this seismic survey. NMFS's Office of Protected Resources, Permits and Conservation Division, also initiated and engaged in formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA with NMFS's Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Act Interagency Cooperation Division, on the issuance of an IHA under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA for this activity. These two

consultations were consolidated and addressed in a single BiOp addressing the direct and indirect effects of these interdependent actions. In May, 2012, NMFS issued a BiOp and concluded that the action and issuance of the IHA are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of cetaceans, pinnipeds, and sea turtles and included an Incidental Take Statement (ITS) incorporating the requirements of the IHA as Terms and Conditions. Compliance with those Relevant Terms and Conditions of the ITS is likewise a mandatory requirement of the IHA. The BiOp also concluded that designated critical habitat of these species does not occur in the action area and would not be affected by the survey.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

To meet NMFS's NEPA requirements for the issuance of an IHA to SIO, NMFS prepared an "Environmental Assessment on the Issuance of an Incidental Harassment Authorization to the Scripps Institution of Oceanography to Take Marine Mammals by Harassment Incidental to a Marine Geophysical Survey in the South-Eastern Pacific Ocean, May, 2012." This EA incorporates the NSF's "National Environmental Policy Act Analysis Pursuant to Executive Order 12114 of a Marine Geophysical Survey by the R/V *Melville* in the South-Eastern Pacific Ocean, May 2012" and an associated report (Report) prepared by LGL for NSF and SIO titled "Final Environmental Analysis of a Marine Geophysical Survey by the R/V *Melville* in the South-Eastern Pacific Ocean off Chile, May 2012," by reference pursuant to 40 CFR 1502.21 and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216-6 § 5.09(d). NMFS has fully evaluated the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects on the human environment prior to making a final decision on the IHA application and deciding whether or not to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). After considering the final EA, the information in the IHA application, BiOp, and the **Federal Register** notice, as well as public comments, NMFS has

determined that the issuance of the IHA is not likely to result in significant impacts on the human environment and has prepared a FONSI. An Environmental Impact Statement is not required and will not be prepared for the action. Authorization

NMFS has issued an IHA to SIO for the take, by Level B harassment, of small numbers of marine mammals incidental to conducting a marine seismic survey in the south-eastern Pacific Ocean, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: May 2, 2012.

Helen M. Golde,

Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2012-11207 Filed 5-8-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal Nos. 12-15]

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 July 21, 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 12-15 with attached transmittal, policy justification, and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: May 4, 2012.

Aaron Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P



DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY
 201 12TH STREET SOUTH, STE 203
 ARLINGTON, VA 22202-5408

APR 30 2012

The Honorable John A. Boehner
 Speaker of the House
 U.S. House of Representatives
 Washington, DC 20515

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. 12-15, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Japan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$10.0 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,

William E. Landay III
 Vice Admiral, USN
 Director

- Enclosures:
1. Transmittal
 2. Policy Justification
 3. Sensitivity of Technology



BILLING CODE 5001-06-C

Transmittal No. 12-15

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:* Japan.

(ii) *Total Estimated Value:*

Major Defense Equipment *	\$4.1 billion.
Other	5.9 billion.
Total	10.0 billion.

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

(iii) *Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:* MDE includes: An initial 4 F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Conventional Take-Off and Landing (CTOL) aircraft with an option to purchase an additional 38 F-35 CTOL aircraft. All aircraft will be configured with the Pratt and Whitney F-135 engines, and 5 spare Pratt and Whitney F-135 engines. Other Aircraft Equipment includes: Electronic Warfare Systems, Command, Control, Communication, Computers and

Intelligence/Communication, Navigational and Identifications (C4I/CNI), Autonomic Logistics Global Support System (ALGS), Autonomic Logistics Information System (ALIS), Flight Mission Trainer, Weapons Employment Capability, and other Subsystems, Features, and Capabilities, F-35 unique infrared flares, reprogramming center, and F-35 Performance Based Logistics. Also included: Software development/integration, flight test instrumentation, aircraft ferry and tanker support, spare

and repair parts, support equipment, tools and test equipment, technical data and publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support.

(iv) *Military Department: Air Force (SBC).*

(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 Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.*

(viii) *Date Report Delivered to Congress: 30 April 2012.*

Policy Justification

Japan—F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Aircraft

The Government of Japan has requested a possible sale of an initial 4 F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Conventional Take-Off and Landing (CTOL) aircraft with an option to purchase an additional 38 F-35 CTOL aircraft. All aircraft will be configured with the Pratt and Whitney F-135 engines, and 5 spare Pratt and Whitney F-135 engines. Other Aircraft Equipment includes: Electronic Warfare Systems, Command, Control, Communication, Computers and Intelligence/Communication, Navigational and Identifications (C4I/CNI), Autonomic Logistics Global Support System (ALGS), Autonomic Logistics Information System (ALIS), Flight Mission Trainer, Weapons Employment Capability, and other Subsystems, Features, and Capabilities, F-35 unique infrared flares, reprogramming center, and F-35 Performance Based Logistics. Also included: Software development/integration, flight test instrumentation, aircraft ferry and tanker support, spare and repair parts, support equipment, tools and test equipment, technical data and publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$10.0 billion.

Japan is one of the major political and economic powers in East Asia and the Western Pacific and a key ally of the United States in ensuring the peace and stability of this region. The U.S. Government shares bases and facilities in Japan. This proposed sale is consistent with these U.S. objectives and with the 1960 Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security.

The proposed sale of aircraft and support will augment Japan's

operational aircraft inventory and enhance its air-to-air and air-to-ground self-defense capability. The Japan Air Self-Defense Force's F-4 aircraft will be decommissioned as F-35's are added to the inventory. Japan will have no difficulty absorbing these aircraft into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractors will be Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company in Fort Worth, Texas, and Pratt and Whitney Military Engines in East Hartford, Connecticut. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require multiple trips to Japan involving U.S. Government and contractor representatives for technical reviews/support, programs management, and training over a period of 15 years. U.S. contractor representatives will be required in Japan to conduct Contractor Engineering Technical Services (CETS) and Autonomic Logistics and Global Support (ALGS) for after-aircraft delivery.

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

Transmittal No. 12-15

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 F-35 Conventional Take-Off and Landing (CTOL) Block 3 aircraft is classified Secret, except as noted below. It contains current technology representing the F-35 low observable airframe/outer mold line, Pratt and Whitney engine, radar, integrated core processor central computer, mission systems/electronic warfare suite, a multiple sensor suite, operational flight and maintenance trainers, technical data/documentation, and associated software. As the aircraft and its subsystems are under development, many specific identifying equipment/system nomenclatures have not been assigned to date. Sensitive and classified elements of the F-35 CTOL Block 3 aircraft include hardware, accessories, components, and associated software for the following major subsystems:

a. The Propulsion system is classified Secret and contains state-of-the-art technology in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret.

Software (object code) is classified Secret. The single 40,000-lb thrust class engine is designed for low observability and has been integrated into the aircraft system and assures highly reliable, affordable performance. The engine is designed to be utilized in all F-35 variants, providing unmatched commonality and supportability throughout the worldwide base of F-35 users. The Conventional Takeoff and Landing (CTOL) propulsion configuration consists of a main engine, diverterless supersonic inlet, and a Low Observable Axisymmetric Nozzle (LOAN).

b. The AN/APG-81 Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) provides mission systems with air-to-air and air-to-ground tracks which the mission system uses as a component to sensor fusion. The AESA allows the radar to direct RF energy in a way that does not expose the F-35, allowing it to maintain low observability in high-threat environments. The radar subsystem supports integrated system performance for air-to-air missions by providing search, track, identification, and AIM-120 missile data link functionality. The radar also provides synthetic aperture radar mapping for locating surface targets and weather mapping for weather avoidance. The radar functions are tightly integrated, interleaved, and managed by an interface to sensor management functions within mission software. The hardware and software are classified Secret.

c. The Electro Optical Targeting System (EOTS) contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret. The EOTS subsystem to the sensor suite provides long-range detection; infrared targeting and tracking systems to support weapon employment. It incorporates a missile-quality Infrared Search and Track (IRST) capability, a Forward-Looking Infrared (FLIR) sensor for precision tracking, and Bomb Damage Indication (BDI) capability. EOTS replaces multiple separate internal or podded systems typically found on legacy aircraft. The functionality of the EOTS employs the following modes: Targeting FLIR; Laser Range-Finding and Target Designation; EODAS and EOTS Performance.

d. The Electro-Optical Distributed Aperture System (EODAS) is a subsystem to the sensor suite and provides full spherical coverage for air-to-air and air-to-ground detection and Navigation Forward Looking Infrared

(NFLIR) imaging. The system contains both Secret and Unclassified elements and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret. The NFLIR capability provides infrared (IR) imagery directly to the pilot's Helmet-Mounted Display for navigation in total darkness, including takeoff and landing, and provides a passive IR input to the F-35's sensor fusion algorithms. The all-aspect missile warning function provides time-critical warnings of incoming missiles and cues other subsystems to provide effective countermeasure employment. EODAS also provides an IRST function that can create and maintain Situational Awareness-quality tracks (SAIRST). EODAS is a mid-wave Infrared (IR) system consisting of six identical sensors distributed around the F-35 aircraft. Each sensor has a corresponding airframe window panel integrated with the aircraft structure to meet aerodynamic and stealth requirements.

e. The Electronic Warfare (EW) system contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret. Sensitive elements include: Apertures; radio frequency (RF) and infrared (IR) countermeasures; and Electronic Countermeasures (ECM) techniques and features. The reprogrammable, integrated system provides radar warning and electronic support measures (ESM) along with a fully integrated countermeasures (CM) system. The EW system is the primary subsystem used to enhance situational awareness, targeting support and self defense through the search, intercept, location and identification of in-band emitters and to automatically counter IR and RF threats. The IR and RF countermeasures are classified Secret. This system uses low signature-embedded apertures, located in the aircraft control surface edges, to provide direction finding and identification of surface and airborne emitters and the geo-location of surface emitters. The system is classified Secret.

f. The Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence/Communications, Navigation, and Identification (C4I/CNI) system provides the pilot with unmatched connectivity to flight members, coalition forces, and the battlefield. It is an integrated subsystem designed to provide a broad spectrum of secure, anti-jam, covert voice and data

communications, precision radio navigation and landing capability, self-identification, beyond visual range target identification, and connectivity with off-board sources of information. The functionality is tightly integrated within the mission system for enhanced efficiency and effectiveness in the areas of communications, navigation, identification, and sensor fusion. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret. The CNI function includes both Secret and Unclassified elements. Sensitive elements of the CNI subsystems include:

(1) The VHF/UHF Voice and Data (Plain and Secure) Communication functionality includes air-to-air UHF/VHF voice and data, both clear and secure, to provide communications with other friendly and coalition aircraft, air-to-ground UHF voice to provide communications with ground sites, and intercommunication voice and tone alerts to provide communications between the avionics system and the pilot. UHF/VHF downlink of air vehicle status and maintenance information is provided to notify the ground crews of the amounts and types of stores, fuel, and other supplies or equipment needed to quickly turn the aircraft for the next mission. The system contains both Secret and Unclassified elements and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret.

(2) The Tactical Air Navigation (TACAN) functionality provides operational modes to identify ground station and to provide bearing-to-station, slant range-to-ground station, bearing-to-airborne station and slant range to the nearest airborne station or aircraft. TACAN is not unique to the F-35 aircraft but is standard on most USAF aircraft. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret.

(3) The Identification Friend or Foe Interrogator and Transponder Identification functionality consists of integrated Mark XII Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) transponder capability to provide identification of other friendly forces. The CNI system supports sensor fusion by supplying data from IFF interrogations and off-board sources through the intra-flight data link. The system contains both Secret and Unclassified elements and contains technology representing the

latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret.

(4) The Global Positioning System Navigation functionality includes the Global Positioning System (GPS) aided inertial navigation to provide high-quality positional navigation, and the Instrument Landing System (ILS)/Tactical Air Control and Navigation (TACAN) to provide navigation and landing cues within controlled airspace. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret.

(5) The Multi-Function Advanced Data Link (MADL) is used specifically for communications between F-35 aircraft and has a very low probability of intercept, contributing to covert operations. The system contains both Secret and Unclassified elements and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret.

(6) The Inertial Navigation System is an all-attitude, Ring Laser Gyro-based navigation system providing outputs of linear and angular acceleration, velocity, body angular rates, position, attitude (roll, pitch, and platform azimuth), magnetic and true heading, altitude, and time tags. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret.

(7) The Radar Altimeter functionality is a module provided in the CNI system rack 3A and uses separate transmit and receive antennas. It measures and reports altitude, and altitude rate of change. Control data is transferred over to a configurable avionics interface card which translates the information to the F-35 aircraft computers. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret.

(8) The Instrument Landing System (ILS) measures, and reports azimuth course and alignment, elevation course alignment, and distance to the runway. Data from the ILS is used to drive visual flight instrumentation. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret.

(9) The Tactical Data Links system is a secure broadcast Tactical Digital Information Link (TADIL) used for real-

time voice/data exchange for command and control, relative navigation, and Precise Position Location Identification (PPLI), providing Link-16 type capabilities. The system contains both Secret and Unclassified elements and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret.

g. The F-35 Autonomic Logistics and Global Support (ALGS) includes both Secret and Unclassified elements. It provides a fully integrated logistics management solution. ALGS integrates a number of functional areas, including supply chain management, repair, support equipment, engine support, and training. The ALGS infrastructure employs a state-of-the-art information system that provides real-time, decision-worthy information for sustainment decisions by flight line personnel. Prognostic health monitoring technology is integrated with the air system and is crucial to the predictive maintenance of vital components.

h. The F-35 Autonomic Logistics Information System (ALIS) includes both Secret and Unclassified elements. The ALIS provides an intelligent information infrastructure that binds all of the key concepts of ALGS into an effective support system. ALIS establishes the appropriate interfaces among the F-35 Air Vehicle, the warfighter, the training system, government information technology (IT) systems, JSF operations, and supporting commercial enterprise systems. Additionally, ALIS provides a comprehensive tool for data collection and analysis, decision support, and action tracking.

i. The F-35 Training System includes both Secret and unclassified elements. The Training System includes several types of training devices, to provide for integrated training of both pilots and maintainers. The pilot training devices include a Full Mission Simulator (FMS) and Deployable Mission Rehearsal Trainer (DMRT). The maintainer training devices include an Aircraft Systems Maintenance Trainer (ASMT), Ejection System Maintenance Trainer (ESMT), and Weapons Loading Trainer (WLT). The F-35 Training System can be integrated, where both pilots and maintainers learn in the same Integrated Training Center (ITC). Alternatively, the pilots and maintainers can train in separate facilities (Pilot Training Center and Maintenance Training Center).

j. Weapons employment capability is Secret and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in

several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret. Sensitive elements include co-operative targeting.

k. Other Subsystems, Features, and Capabilities:

(1) The Low Observable Air Frame is Secret and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is classified Secret. Software (object code) is Secret. Sensitive elements include: The Radar Cross Section and its corresponding plots, construction materials and fabrication.

(2) The Integrated Core Processor (ICP) Central Computer is Secret and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is Secret. Software (object code) is classified Secret. Sensitive elements include: F-35 Integrated Core Processor utilizing Commercial Off the Shelf (COTS) Hardware and Module Design to maximize growth and allow for efficient Management of DMS and Technology Insertion), if additional processing is needed, a second ICP will be installed in the space reserved for that purpose, more than doubling the current throughput and memory capacity.

(3) The F-35 Helmet Mounted Display System (HMDS) is Secret and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is Secret. Software (object code) is Secret. Sensitive elements include: HMDS consists of the Display Management Computer-Helmet, a helmet shell/display module, a quick disconnect integrated as part of the ejection seat, helmet trackers and tracker processing, day- and night-vision camera functions, and dedicated system/graphics processing. The HMDS provides a fully sunlight readable, bi-ocular display presentation of aircraft information projected onto the pilot's helmet visor. The use of a night vision camera integrated into the helmet eliminates the need for separate Night Vision Goggles (NVG). The camera video is integrated with EO and IR imaging inputs and displayed on the pilot's visor to provide a comprehensive night operational capability.

(4) The Pilot Life Support System is Secret and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is Secret. Software

(object code) is Secret. Sensitive elements include: A measure of Pilot Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Protection through use of On Board Oxygen Generating System (OBOGS); and an escape system that provides additional protection to the pilot. OBOGS takes the Power and Thermal Management System (PTMS) air and enriches it by removing gases (mainly nitrogen) by adsorption, thereby increasing the concentration of oxygen in the product gas and supplying breathable air to the pilot.

(5) The Off-Board Mission Support System is Secret and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. Information on performance and inherent vulnerabilities is Secret. Software (object code) is Secret. Sensitive elements include: Mission planning, mission briefing, maintenance/intelligence/tactical debriefing, sensor/algorithm planning, EW system reprogramming, data debrief, etc.

1. Publications: Manuals are considered Secret, special access required, as they contain information on aircraft/system performance and inherent vulnerabilities

2. The JSF Reprogramming Center is classified Secret and contains technology representing the latest state-of-the-art in several areas. This hardware/software facility provides a means to update JSF electronic warfare databases. Sensitive elements include: EW software databases and tools to modify these databases.

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

[FR Doc. 2012-11154 Filed 5-8-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal Nos. 12-16]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense.

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