POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Republic of Korea—UGM–84L Block II Harpoon Missiles

The Republic of Korea (ROK) has requested a possible sale of:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Nineteen (19) UGM–84L Harpoon Block II All-Up-Round Missiles

Thirteen (13) Block II upgrade kits

Also included are containers; Guidance Control Units (GCU) spares; recertification and reconfiguration support; spare and repair parts; tools and tool sets; support equipment; personnel training and training equipment; publication and technical data; U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated value of MDE is $100 million. The total estimated value is $110 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by meeting the legitimate security and defense needs of an ally and partner nation. The ROK is one of the major political and economic powers in East Asia and the Western Pacific and a key partner of the United States in ensuring peace and stability in that region. It is vital to the U.S. interest to assist our South Korean ally in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability.

The ROK intends to use the Harpoon Block II missiles to supplement its existing Harpoon missile capability. The acquisition of the Harpoon Block II missiles and support will supplement current weapon inventories and bring the ROK Navy’s Anti-Surface Warfare performance up to existing regional baselines. The proposed sale will provide a defensive capability while enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allied forces. Sub-launched Harpoon missiles have been used by the ROK since the 1990s. The ROK will have no difficulty absorbing these additional missiles into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractor will be the Boeing Company in St. Louis, Missouri. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposal sale will not require any additional U.S. government or U.S. contractor personnel in Korea. However, U.S. Government or contractor personnel in-country visits will be required on a temporary basis in conjunction with program technical oversight and support requirements.

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

Transmittal No. 15–77

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 UGM–84L Block II Harpoon missile is a submarine launched Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW) missile that provides naval forces with a capability to engage targets in both the “blue water” regions and the littorals of the world. The Harpoon Block II missile, including publications, documentation, operations, supply, maintenance, and training to be conveyed with this proposed sale have the highest classification level of SECRET. The Harpoon Block II missile components being conveyed by the proposed sale that are considered sensitive and are classified include:

   a. The Radar seeker
   b. The GPS/INS System
   c. Operational Flight Program (OFP) Software
   d. Missile operational characteristics and performance data

2. These elements are essential to the ability of the Harpoon Block II missile to selectively engage hostile targets under a wide range of operational, tactical and environmental conditions.

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 system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the recipient country can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Republic of Korea.

[FR Doc. 2015–31245 Filed 12–10–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–C

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 15–57]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification


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:


The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 15–57 with attached Policy Justification and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: December 8, 2015.

Aaron Siegel,
Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5001–06–P
The Honorable Paul D. Ryan  
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. 15-57, concerning the Department of the Air Force’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $1.29 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,  

J.W. Rice  
Vice Admiral, USN  
Director  

Enclosures:  
1. Transmittal  
2. Policy Justification  
3. Sensitivity of Technology  
4. Regional Balance (Classified Document Provided Under Separate Cover)

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:  
Major Defense Equipment (MDE) includes:  
One thousand (1000) GBU–10 Paveway II Laser Guided Bombs (LGBs)  
Two thousand, three hundred (2,300) BLU–117/MK–84 2000lb General Purpose (GP) Bombs  
Four thousand twenty (4,020) GBU–12 Paveway II LGBs  
Eight thousand twenty (8,020) BLU–111/MK–82 500lb GP Bombs  
One thousand, one hundred (1,100) GBU–24 Paveway III LGBs  
One thousand, five hundred (1,500) BLU–109 2000lb Penetrator Warheads  
Four hundred (400) GBU–31(V1) KMU–556 Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) tail kits  
One thousand (1,000) GBU–31(V3) KMU–557 JDAM tail kits  
Three thousand (3,000) GBU–38 KMU–572 JDAM tail kits

Major Defense Equipment*  
$1.10 billion  
Other  
$0.19 billion  
Total  
$1.29 billion
Two thousand (2,000) GBU–48 Enhanced Paveway II, dual mode Global Positioning System (GPS)/LGB with the MXU–667 Airfoil and the MAU–169/L/B Computer Control Group (CCG) Dual mode

Two thousand (2,000) BLU–110/MK–83 1000lb GP Bombs

Five hundred (500) GBU–54 KMU–572 Laser JDAM tail kits, dual mode GPS/ LGB with the MXU–667 Airfoil and the MAU–169/L/B CCG Dual mode

Three hundred (300) GBU–56 KMU–556 Laser JDAM tail kits, dual mode GPS/ LGB with the MXU–667 Airfoil and the MAU–169/L/B CCG Dual mode

Ten thousand two hundred (10,200) FMU–152 Fuzes

This request also includes the following Non-MDE items and services: procurement of bomb equipment components such as adaptors, nose plugs, fusing mechanisms, swivels, support links and connections; associated support equipment; publications, such as technical orders, and system manuals; training; engineering and technical support; transportation (to include special airlift support); program management; and other administrative support and related services.


(v) Prior Related Cases, if any:

FMS Case AAI
FMS Case AAM
FMS Case AXJ
FMS Case AAP
FMS Case AJO
FMS Case SAO $3.85-billion, CN 10–43
FMS Case SAP $8.31-billion, CN 10–43
FMS Case SRC $8.05-billion, CN 92–42, 98–36, 00–63
FMS Case YPW $57.2-million, CN 84–23, 92–42

(iv) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: 13 NOV 2015

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

The Government of Saudi Arabia—Air-to-Ground Munitions

The Government of Saudi Arabia requested approval to procure the following:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE) includes:

One thousand (1000) GBU–10 Paveway II Laser Guided Bombs (LGBs)

Two thousand, three hundred (2,300) BLU–117/MK–84 2000lb General Purpose (GP) Bombs

Four thousand twenty (4,020) GBU–12 Paveway II LGBs

Eight thousand twenty (8,020) BLU–111/MK–82 500lb GP Bombs

One thousand, one hundred (1,100) GBU–24 Paveway III LGBs

One thousand, five hundred (1,500) BLU–109 2000lb Penetrator Warheads

Four hundred (400) GBU–31(V1) KMU–556 Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) tail kits

One thousand (1,000) GBU–31(V3) KMU–557 JDAM tail kits

Three thousand (3,000) GBU–38 KMU–572 JDAM tail kits

Two thousand (2,000) GBU–48 Enhanced Paveway II, dual mode Global Positioning System (GPS)/LGB with the MXU–667 Airfoil and the MAU–169/L/B Computer Control Group (CCG) Dual mode

Two thousand (2,000) BLU–110/MK–83 1000lb GP Bombs

Five hundred (500) GBU–54 KMU–572 Laser JDAM tail kits, dual mode GPS/ LGB with the MXU–667 Airfoil and the MAU–169/L/B CCG Dual mode

Three hundred (300) GBU–56 KMU–556 Laser JDAM tail kits, dual mode GPS/ LGB with the MXU–667 Airfoil and the MAU–169/L/B CCG Dual mode

Ten thousand two hundred (10,200) FMU–152 Fuzes

This request also includes the following Non-MDE items and services: procurement of bomb equipment components such as adaptors, nose plugs, fusing mechanisms, swivels, support links and connections; associated support equipment; publications, such as technical orders, and system manuals; training; engineering and technical support; transportation (to include special airlift support); program management; and other administrative support and related services.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any:

FMS Case AAI
FMS Case AAM
FMS Case AXJ
FMS Case AAP
FMS Case AJO
FMS Case SAO $3.85-billion, CN 10–43
FMS Case SAP $8.31-billion, CN 10–43
FMS Case SRC $8.05-billion, CN 92–42, 98–36, 00–63
FMS Case YPW $57.2-million, CN 84–23, 92–42

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology

1. GBU–10 Paveway II Laser Guided 2000-lb bombs and Paveway II Laser Guided GBU–12 500-lb munitions use general purpose (GP) bombs bodies that are fitted with the MXU–651/650 airfoil and the MAU–169 L/B Computer Control Group (CCG) to convert them to Laser Guided Bombs (LGBs). The LGB is a maneuverable, free-fall weapon that guides to a spot of laser energy reflected off of the target. The LGB is delivered like a normal GP warhead and the semi-active guidance corrects for many of the normal errors inherent in any delivery system. The hardware is UNCLASSIFIED. Information revealing the probability of destroying common/ unspecified targets, the number of simultaneous lasers the laser seeker head can discriminate, and data on the radar/infra-red frequency is classified CONFIDENTIAL.

2. GBU–31(VI) 2000-lb GP bombs and Paveway II Laser Guided GBU–12 500-lb munitions use general purpose (GP) bombs bodies that are fitted with the MXU–651/650 airfoil and the MAU–169 L/B Computer Control Group (CCG) to convert them to Laser Guided Bombs (LGBs). These bombs are fitted with an FMU–152A/B fuze and a KMU–556B/B (KMU–572B/B) guidance
tail kit that converts unguided free-fall bombs into accurate, all weather, Global Positioning System (GPS) guided “smart” munitions. Information revealing target designation tactics and associated aircraft maneuvers, the probability of destroying specific/peculiar targets, vulnerabilities regarding countermeasures and the electromagnetic environment is classified SECRET. Information revealing the probability of destroying common/unspecified targets is classified CONFIDENTIAL.

3. GBU-31(V3) Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAMs) are 2000-lb JDAM equipped with the BLU-109 C/B forged steel penetrator warhead. The bomb body is approximately twice as thick as a typical 2000-lb warhead. This hardened case, along with a solid nose, allows it to penetrate hardened targets. All other technical details and risks are identical to the GBU-31(V1) above.

4. The GBU-24 Paveway III (PWIII) is a 2000-lb laser-guided munition that can be employed at high, medium and low altitudes. It utilizes the FMU-139A/B Fuze, BSU-84 airfoil and WGU-43C/B guidance control unit (GCU). Both the MK-84 conventional warhead and the BLU-109 penetrating warhead can be utilized, similar to GBU-31(V1) and GBU-31(V3). Design improvements over versions include proportional navigation, increased terminal accuracy, off-axis release envelopes, trajectory shaping, and target reacquisition capability. Information revealing target designation tactics and associated aircraft maneuvers, the probability of destroying specific/peculiar targets, vulnerabilities regarding countermeasures and the electromagnetic environment is classified SECRET. Information revealing test boundaries, operational envelop and release points, the probability of destroying common/unspecified targets, the number of simultaneous lasers the laser seeker head can discriminate, the terminal impact conditions, the operational flight programming, laser seeker sensitivity and range, laser seeker field of view and field of regard, laser seeker tracking gate widths, laser pulse stability requirements, laser pulse width discrimination details, and data on the radar/infra-red frequency is classified CONFIDENTIAL.

5. The GBU-48 is a 1000-lb (MK-83 or BLU-110) Enhanced Paveway II, dual mode GPS/LGB with the MXU-667 Airfoil and the MAU-169/L/B CCC. The laser sensor enhances standard GPS guidance by allowing rapid prosecution of moving targets or fixed targets with large initial target location errors (TLE). Information revealing target designation tactics and associated aircraft maneuvers, the probability of destroying specific/peculiar targets, vulnerabilities regarding countermeasures and the electromagnetic environment is classified SECRET. Information revealing the probability of destroying common/unspecified targets, the number of simultaneous lasers the laser seeker head can discriminate, and data on the radar/infra-red frequency is classified CONFIDENTIAL.

6. The GBU-54/56s are the dual-mode laser JDAM variants of the GBU-38/ GBU-31 JDAM. The nose fuzes are replaced with DSU-38/DSU-40s, which give the weapons both GPS and laser guidance capability. The laser sensor enhances the standard JDAM’s reactive target capability by allowing rapid prosecution of fixed targets with large initial target location errors (TLE). The addition of the laser sensor combined with additional cabling and mounting hardware turns a standard JDAM into a Laser JDAM. Information revealing target designation tactics and associated aircraft maneuvers, the probability of destroying specific/peculiar targets, vulnerabilities regarding countermeasures and the electromagnetic environment is classified SECRET. Information revealing the probability of destroying common/unspecified targets, the number of simultaneous lasers the laser seeker head can discriminate, and data on the radar/infra-red frequency is classified CONFIDENTIAL.

7. 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.

8. A determination has been made that the Government of Saudi Arabia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Saudi Arabia.

9. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification. Moreover, the benefits to be derived from this sale, as outlined in the Policy Justification, outweigh the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.

[FR Doc. 2015-31272 Filed 12–10–15; 8:45 am]