



Defense Security Cooperation Agency
NEWS RELEASE

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Media/Public Contact: (703) 601-3670

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Austria – Possible Sale of F-16 Fighter Aircraft

On 29 November, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale to Austria of F16 C/D Block 50/52 fighter aircraft and associated equipment and services. The total value of the sale could be as high as \$1,739 million if all options are exercised.

The Government of Austria has requested a possible sale of 30 F-16C/D Block 50/52 fighter aircraft with engines, three Pratt and Whitney F100-PW-229 or General Electric F110-GE-129 spare engines, four AIM-120C Advance Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM), nine AIM-120C AMRAAM Air Vehicle Instrumented missiles, 20 AIM-9M-8/9 SIDEWINDER missiles, and 15 AIM-9M-8/9 SIDEWINDER practice/training missiles. Associated simulators, support equipment, software development/integration, logistics support, training missiles, ammunition, spare 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. The estimated cost is \$1,739 million.

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 Europe.

The Austrian Air Force (AAF) currently operates SAAB JAS-35 Draken and SAAB-105 aircraft. These aging fighters are expensive to operate and maintain. This proposed sale will provide operational capabilities as the SAAB aircraft eventually are retired. It will also allow AAF to meet training requirements starting in early 2003. This proposed sale will not impact regional military balance of power.

The principal contractors will be Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company in Fort Worth, Texas; Pratt and Whitney in East Hartford, Connecticut; General Electric in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Raytheon Corporation in Lexington, Massachusetts. One or more proposed offset agreements may be related to this proposed sale.

Implementation will require the assignment of approximately 12 each U.S. Government and contractor representatives for a period of up to four years to provide program support commencing with delivery of the aircraft to Austria.

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