

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

July 22, 2011

The Honorable Michael B. Donley  
Secretary of the Air Force  
Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330

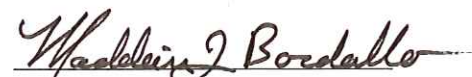
Dear Secretary Donley,

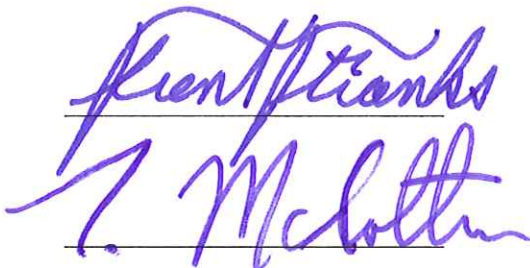
We were surprised to learn that the Air Force recently agreed to purchase 25 advanced trainer aircraft for the Air Force Academy from Cirrus Aircraft. Cirrus Aircraft is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cirrus Industries, Inc. and Cirrus Industries was recently acquired by China Aviation Industry General Aircraft Company (CAIGA). As you may know, CAIGA is a business unit of the government-owned Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC). According to AVIC President Lin Zuoming, AVIC is committed to "strengthen the military forces" of the People's Republic of China. In addition to producing the T-53A trainer aircraft, AVIC also produces a number of Chinese military aircraft, including the J-10 Chengdu fighter as well as developing the prototype J-20 stealth fighter.


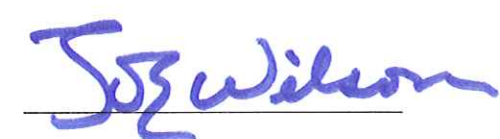
While the T-53A Trainer is not included on the munition list of the International Trafficking in Arms Regulations and is therefore not explicitly in violation of Public Law 106-65, which prohibits the Department of Defense from procuring goods and services from Communist Chinese Military Companies, we remain concerned with this decision. It is concerning that the Air Force would elect to procure the aircraft and safety systems meant to begin training our nation's future Air Force pilots from a company whose key focus is the advancement of Chinese military strength in aviation and is owned by the Communist Chinese government. We look forward to your explanation of how this procurement agreement is in the best interest of the Air Force and the United States of America.

Sincerely,

  
J. RANDY FORBES  
Member of Congress

  
MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO  
Member of Congress

  
J. McColton

  
  
J. Wilson

Robert J. Withers  
James R. Wolf

Myrtle Tompso  
Mike McIntyre

Frank LeBeau

Walter B. Jones

Anna Hunt

Joe Pe

John Carter

Herb

Mike