

Defense Security Cooperation Agency

NEWS RELEASE

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Date: 26 June 2001 Transmittal No. 01-17

Republic of Korea – Sale of AH-1Z Super Cobra Attack Helicopters and Associated Equipment

On 26 June, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale of 36 Super Cobra attack helicopters and associated equipment.

The Republic of Korea Government (ROKG) has requested the possible sale of 36 AH-1Z Super Cobra helicopters, 14 spare T-700-GE-701C engines, 72 SIDEWINDER launchers, 85 M299 HELLFIRE launchers, 100 AIM-9X SIDEWINDER missiles, 576 AGM-114K1 HELLFIRE air-to-surface laser missiles, 40 AGM-114 training and 40 AGM-114 dummy missiles, 39 AN/ARC-210 SINCGARS radios with HAVE QUICK, 2.75 inch rockets, M130 chaff dispensers, 20mm cannons and rounds, rockets, spare and repair parts, communications equipment, support equipment, tools and test sets, supply support, publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor technical support and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$1.6 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 Northeast Asia.

Korea desires these articles to fulfill their strategic commitments for self-defense and self-reliance. The proposed sale will upgrade its anti-armor day/night missile capability, provide for the defense of vital installations and provide close air support for the military ground forces. Korea, which already has Cobra helicopters in its inventory, will have no difficulty absorbing these helicopters.

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

The principal contractors will be Bell Helicopter Textron, Incorporated in Hurst, Texas and Lockheed Martin in Orlando, Florida. One or more proposed offset agreements may be related to this proposed sale.

Implementation of this sale will require the assignment of three contractor technical representatives for three years during initial delivery and system check out of the Cobra helicopters.

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

The ROKG is also considering a competing bid for 36 Apache attack helicopters.