



Arab Defense Industry Papers News Bulletin

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About the ADIP News Bulletin

The Arab Defense Industry Papers (ADIP) is a new professional series focusing on the role of the defense industry in Algeria Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates. The focus of the series is on the establishment of national defense industrial bases in these countries and joint collaborative defense projects as well as defense exports. The ADIP News Bulletin complements the analytical papers by providing information about current and upcoming developments relevant for the Arab defense industrial establishment. The ADIP News Bulletin is available by subscription. ADIP and the ADIP News Bulletin are joint initiatives of Borchert Consulting & Research AG and Verocy. For more information about ADIP, see: <http://www.arabdefenseindustry.com>.

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The Big Picture

Turkey to open largest overseas base in Somalia

(19 Mar 2017) Turkey is expected to open its largest overseas base in Somalia in April 2017, *World Bulletin* reported. Construction of the new site began in March 2015. The Turkish Army will use the base, which can house up to 500 soldiers at the same time, to train soldiers from the Somalia National Army and other African countries. Construction costs amounted to around US\$50m.

<http://bit.ly/2nJMRwf>

Saudi Arabia and the U.S. eye joint investment program worth more than \$200bn – while State Department approves weapons sales

(17 March 2017) During his current visit to Washington, DC Saudi Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman met President Donald Trump and Secretary of Defense James Mattis. A plan to set up a joint investment program worth more than \$200bn emerged from the discussion with President Trump. According to reports the program could see initiatives in the energy, industry, infrastructure, and technology sectors. In addition, Saudi Arabia has welcomed President Trump's "hard line rhetoric on Iran", and the readiness of the White House to normalize relations between Saudi Arabia and the United States.

Prior to the Deputy Crown Prince's visit, the State Department approved resuming sales of precision-guided weapons to Saudi Arabia. This has been interpreted as an indication that the Trump administration might want to seek closer ties with Saudi Arabia. The deal, which had been halted by the Obama administration over controversies related to the war in Yemen, needs to be agreed by the White House to get into effect.

<http://bit.ly/2nhIHzk>;

<http://ind.pn/2n3zYQw>

Saudi Arabia and China sign contracts worth potentially \$65bn and agree to partner on UAV manufacturing

(17 March 2017) Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, who visited China in mid-March as the final destination of his 30-day Asia-Pacific trip, oversaw the signing of projects worth potentially \$65bn in Beijing. According to *Arab News* the deals cover around 35 projects in different areas such as education, new energy, trade, and the space industry. In addition to the 14 MoUs signed between both governments Saudi and Chinese companies inked 21 deals, "ranging from exploring investments in oil and petrochemical plants to e-commerce and cooperating on renewable energy markets", *Arab News* said.

Providing additional information on the MoUs, *Saudi Press Agency SPA* reported that China's National Space Administration and the King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST) has signed a MoU on the Kingdom's participation in China's moon exploration project Chang E-4. KACST and the Chinese company CASA also signed a partnership agreement on manufacturing UAVs.

<http://bit.ly/2nhrg8e>;

<http://bit.ly/2mXdKOA>; <http://bit.ly/2nIs4rR>

Over 22,000 cadets expelled from army and military schools in Turkey

(17 Mar 2017) Following the defeated coup on 15 July 2016, Turkey has expelled more than 22,000 cadets from army and military schools, Defense Minister Fikri Isik said according to *Anadolu Post*. The newspaper further indicated that among "the 16,409 cadets, 4,090 cadets were from military high school, 6,140 from non-commissioned officers' college and 6,179 were students getting their bachelor's degree from Turkish Military Academy, Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, Gulhane Military Medical Academy and School of Nursing."

<http://bit.ly/2ns1gQ8>

Austria's partner program with NATO blocked by Ankara

(17 Mar 2017) In response to Austria's suggestion to freeze EU membership talks with Turkey in the aftermath of the 2016 coup, Ankara has started to oppose Vienna's NATO partner program. Turkey confirmed the blockade that was only targeted at Austria, officials said. However, *Jane's Defence Weekly* wrote on 17 March 2017 that also "other countries that cooperate with the alliance without actually being members of it" have been affected by Ankara's blockade.

<http://bit.ly/2nsq8aD>

Saudi Arabia and Japan strengthen bilateral ties

(15 Mar 2017) On the occasion of the visit of Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud to Japan in mid-March 2017, the two governments have signed several MoUs. Among other things, Toyota Motor Corporation and the National Industrial Cluster Development Program signed a MoU "for the feasibility study of an industrial project to produce vehicles and parts in the Kingdom," *Arab News* reported.

<http://bit.ly/2mXfUOo>

U.S. Defense Logistics Agency Distribution opens new facility in Oman

(14 Mar 2017) The U.S. Defense Logistics Agency Distribution has opened a new facility in the Port of Salalah, Oman. The center provides logistics support for U.S. Navy vessels and other U.S. customers in the area of responsibility of the Central Command (CENTCOM). The center had already become fully operation in October 2016, the *American Journal of Transportation* reported.

<http://bit.ly/2nrQXLS>

Emirati-Somali spat over naval base

(4 Mar 2017) On 12 February 2017 the parliament of Somaliland agreed on the construction of a UAE base near the port town of Berbera. Shortly thereafter Somali President Mohamed Abdullahi Farmajo asked the UAE to stop completing the base. Only few days later, the UAE ambassador to Somalia had been recalled in pro-

test to Mogadishu's demands, Gulf journalist *Awad Mustafa* reported.

<http://bit.ly/2nzs2iG>

Lebanon appoints new Army Commander-in-Chief

(3 Mar 2017) Lebanon's cabinet has appointed BG Joseph Aoun as the new Army Commander on 8 March 2017. He is replacing General Jean Kahwaji, whose term had already been extended twice. In addition, the cabinet also named General Saadallah Muhieddine Hamat as Secretary General of the Higher Defense Council.

<http://bit.ly/2mMuYMt>

Yemeni rebels show UAVs

(2 Mar 2017) Pictures showing UAVs seem to indicate that Yemen's rebels continue to receive military support from Iran. As *Jane's Defence Weekly* reported on 2 March 2017, Yemeni rebels revealed the Qasef 1 UAV at the end of February 2017, which looked similar to the Iranian Ababil 2 UAV. The Qasef 1 UAV could be used for reconnaissance and surveillance mission. In addition, it could be equipped with a payload or warhead weighing up to 30kg.

<http://bit.ly/2nKfHMS>

Australia and UAE consider 10-year defense plan

(19 Feb 2017) On the occasion of the 2017 IDEX in Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan met Australia's Defense Industry Minister Christopher Pyne. Both agreed to explore closer defense ties and to consider a 10-year defense plan. According to press reports Pyne said the Crown Prince had been "talking about a more mature long-term relationship" that could be worth more than AUS\$1bn in sales to the UAE.

<http://bit.ly/2IEjUUG>

Defense Industry

Turkey's SSM unveils new strategy paper

(14 Mar 2017) Turkey's Undersecretariat for Defense Industries (SSM) has unveiled the new

strategic plan for 2017-2021. According to the plan, priority programs for the next five years will include the indigenous fighter program, a lightweight helicopter, drones and drone engines, the Altay main battle tank as well as other projects. According to *Defense News*, the plan also outlines the following program-related milestones:

- Indigenous engines for land platforms: 2021.
- Locally developed turboshaft engines: 2021.
- Delivery of coast guard radars (Phase 1): 2018.
- Contract signing for coast guard radars (Phase 2): 2019.
- Acceptance of operative drones with imagery intelligence capabilities: three in 2017; 10 in 2018; 13 in 2019; and four in 2020.
- Acceptance of tactical drones with imagery intelligence capabilities: 20 in 2017, and eight in 2018.
- Completion of design work for the TF2000, an indigenous effort to build frigates: 2020.
- Delivery of Altay tanks (units): 15 in 2020, and 20 in 2021.
- Contract for the development of stand-off jammer (SOJ) capabilities for aerial platforms: 2017.
- Delivery of the first aircraft with SOJ capabilities: 2020.
- Missile warning systems for fighter aircraft: 2020.
- Conceptual design for longer-range air and anti-missile defense systems: 20% in 2018; 20% in 2019; 30% in 2020; and 30% in 2021.
- Delivery of first portable electronic warfare radar system: 2021.

<http://bit.ly/2nVRSRC>

Turkey starts producing the Korkut SPAAG system

(14 Mar 2017) The Korkut 35mm self-propelled anti-aircraft gun (SPAAG) is about to enter serial production after successfully completing qualification trials with the Land Forces Command of the Turkish Army, *Jane's Defence Weekly* reported. Turkey will produce an undisclosed number of the new system that is jointly manufactured by Aselsan (prime contractor), FNSS Savunma Sistemleri (vehicle), and Makina ve

Kimya Endustrisi Kurumu (MKEK, weapons and ammunition).

<http://bit.ly/2mMpjq>

Coup in Turkey hits Aselsan, while company's profit rises

(9 Mar 17) Turkish prosecutors have launched legal proceedings against more than 80 employees of Aselsan charged for being members or leaders of the Fetullah Terrorist Organization (FETO), press reports indicate. According to a Turkish police officer, Aselsan officials had used an encryption communication application called ByLock that is also used by FETO. An official from the Turkish Armed Forces Foundation, the majority shareholder, said the prosecution would not affect the company as programs were progressing as planned.

Irrespective of the current investigation the company's 2016 profit increased. On 21st February 2017, the company announced 2016 profit worth US\$220m, up 273% from 2015. Sales increased by 36% to US\$1.04bn.

<http://bit.ly/2ml5w48>; <http://bit.ly/2nehw6V>

Strata eyeing production in Morocco to serve European market

(7 Mar 2017) Strata could soon open a new aerospace production plant in Morocco, the company CEO Bad al Olama told *Zawya* in early March 2017. In 2016 the manufacturing division of Mubadala Aerospace landed a \$1bn contract to produce parts of the Airbus A320 and A350-900. As a result, the company is now eyeing production plants closer to Europe, al Olama said. He did not confirm Morocco was the location selected by the company, but had previously talked about the North African country.

<http://bit.ly/2m9YteS>

Rockwell Collins appoints new Middle East leadership

(3 Mar 2017) Rockwell Collins is expanding operations in the Middle East and has appointed a new leadership team for the region, *Al Defaiya* reported:

- Talel Kamel is the new Managing Director responsible for leading and developing the company's business in the region. He joined the company in 2013 after holding positions at Airbus and Strata in the United Arab Emirates.
- Bernard Bouillaud is the new Sales Director for the Middle East and Africa. He joined Rockwell Collins in 1998. In his last position he was Strategy Director for the region based in Dubai.

<http://bit.ly/2nWq5jV>

Russia claims Egypt is interested in shipbuilding technologies

(2 Mar 2017) Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin talked about Egypt's interest in Russian civil shipbuilding and aircraft construction expertise after meeting President Abdel Fattah Sisi on 2 March 2017 in Cairo. According to *Sputnik News*, "Rogozin stressed Sisi's motivation to capitalize on the military, technical and civil cooperation with Russia and to guarantee the necessary level of security". Back in February 2017, Rostec signaled its readiness to sign deals on military technology delivery to Egypt once Cairo had tackled unresolved financial problems.

<http://bit.ly/2nyLFLM>

Sikorsky and TAI sign parts production deal

(1 Mar 2017) Over the next ten years, Turkish Aerospace Industry (TAI) will produce parts for the Sikorsky S-70 Black Hawk program worth \$270. Both companies signed a respective agreement on 1 March 2017. According to press reports, both companies intend to extend the parts production agreement until 2044 amounting to a total work share worth \$500m for TAI and Tusas Engine Industries, *Quwa* reported.

<http://bit.ly/2mzVLut>

Belarus and Tawazun Economic Council sign MoU

(27 Feb 2017) On the sidelines of the 2017 IDEX defense exhibition Tawazun Economic Council and the State Military Industrial Committee of Belarus signed a MoU for future defense coop-

eration in the fields of heavy vehicles, air defense equipment, radio and electronic equipment as well as reconnaissance and IT systems. Both sides also agreed to exchange experts to "implement activities in the field of research, development, training, production, overhaul and maintenance," Al Defaiya reported.

<http://bit.ly/2neJrDF>

Arab investors to take co-stake in Russian Helicopters

(20 Feb 2017) A consortium consisting of the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) and undisclosed Arab investors is taking a 12% stake in Russian Helicopters, Rostec CEO Sergey Chemezov told reporters on 20 February 2017. In addition to providing money for the company, the "Middle East partners will help Russian Helicopters to broaden operations in this region", news agency TASS reported.

<http://tass.com/economy/931881>

IAIS and Milrem sign MoU

(20 Feb 2017) During the 2017 IDEX defense exhibition in Abu Dhabi, Estonia's Milrem signed an MoU with IGG Aselsan Integrated Systems, a Joint Venture of IGG and Turkey's Aselsan. Together the companies were showcasing a concept study combining Milrem's THeMIS tracked UGV equipped with a weapon station by Aselsan. The system could be remotely controlled from a distance of up to 1km, a Milrem representative told ADIP. In addition, the same THeMIS platform was also on display at the booth of Saudi Arabia's Advanced Electronics Company. This suggests that the Estonian company could likely play a prominent role in future UGV programs of both the UAE and Saudi Arabia. For the time being, however, it is unclear if these countries have already formalized respective requests for the military use of UGVs.

<http://bit.ly/2mAvxrr>

Russia and the UAE announce plans to cooperate on 5th generation fighters

(20 Feb 2017) One of the headline grabbing stories at the 2017 IDEX defense exhibition was the

announcement of Rostec CEO Sergey Chemezov, that his company and the UAE would team to co-develop a fifth generation light combat aircraft. According to news reports the development would be based on the MiG29 and could start in 2018. Chemezov told *Defense News* the development could take seven to eight years. All relevant details need to be finalized, but Chemezov already said he anticipated local production in the Emirates.

<http://bit.ly/2madqNZ>

Rostec to broaden footprint in Egypt

(17 Feb 2017) Rostec will expand its office in Egypt and send an official from Russian Helicopters to the country, Victor Kladov, Director for International Cooperation, said on 17 February 2017. Rostec's decision to broaden its footprint in Egypt comes in reaction to the increasing number of orders in the country, he added.

<http://bit.ly/2ma7oNb>

Strata and Reliance Defence to cooperate on aerospace manufacturing

(15 Feb 2017) Strata Manufacturing, a Mubadala subsidiary, and Reliance Defence, a subsidiary of India's Reliance Group, have signed a MoU to cooperate on "advanced aerospace manufacturing capabilities", India's *Economic Times* reported on 15 February 2017. According to the report, cooperation could extend to areas such as the production of carbon fiber composites and the use of 3D printing for produce aerospace components and airframe panels.

<http://bit.ly/2IS5BL6>

Defense Exports

Nurol Makina seals first export order

(16 Mar 2017) An undisclosed North African country is the first export customer for Turkish vehicle manufacturer Nurol Makina. The country will receive the Ejder Yalcin tactical vehicle that is also in use with the Turkish Armed Forces and the Turkish police. The number of vehicles to be procured was not revealed, but reports

point out that the export order also includes logistics support.

<http://bit.ly/2m9cmJY>

NIMR Automotive eyeing opportunity in the Czech Republic

(5 Mar 2017) NIMR Automotive and Czech manufacturer VOP CZ, which recently announced their intention to cooperate (ADIP News Bulletin dated 10 February 2017, p. 4), have signed a formal cooperation agreement during the 2017 IDEX defense exhibition in Abu Dhabi. This provides an opportunity for NIMR Automotive to enter the contest to replace around 600-700 4x4 armored vehicles of the Army of the Czech republic. According to *Defence Blog*, the NIMR AJBAN 440A has participated in a recent demonstration in the Czech Republic.

<http://bit.ly/2nuVait>; <http://bit.ly/2nMI9gl>

Dubai's MSPV supplies vehicles to Egypt's armed forces

(24 Feb 2017) Egypt's armed forces receive Panthera T6 light armored vehicles built by Dubai-based Minerva Special Purpose Vehicles (MSPV), *defenceWeb* reported with reference to *Jane's Defence Weekly*. Overall, Egypt will receive 2,000-3,000 vehicles for the country's police and army. The Panthera T6 is based on the chassis of the Toyota Land Cruiser 79.

<http://bit.ly/2n6rAhU>

India approves SAM co-development with Israel

(22 Feb 2017) On 22 February 2017, the Indian Cabinet Committee on Security has approved to jointly develop a medium range surface-to-air missile with Israel. Israel's IAI and India's Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) will work on the US\$2.53bn project to co-develop a missile with a range of up to 70km, *Jane's Missiles & Rockets* reported.

<http://bit.ly/2nVWUgJ>

Defense Modernization and Support

First Algerian Kilo-class sub completed

(17 Mar 2017) The first of two Kilo-class submarines ordered by Algeria in mid-2014 seems to have been completed in mid-March 2017. This has been reported by *defenceWeb* referring to pictures that had been circulated on social media. The two Kilo-class submarines complement the existing fleet of four Russian-built submarines Algeria has already been operating. The Kilo-class submarines have six torpedo tubes that can carry up to 18 torpedoes or 24 AM-1 mines.

<http://bit.ly/2mMpxgs>

Iraqi police uses weaponized commercial drones

(16 Mar 2017) Copying the tactics of insurgents, the Iraqi Federal Police (IFP) seems to be among the frontrunners of state agencies using weaponized commercial drones, *Jane's Defence Weekly* reported on 16 March 2017. The IPF has released several videos showing the use of these new assets. One video shows the DJI Matrice 100 quadcopter. Priced at US\$3,300 per unit, the quadcopter can carry a 1kg payload and hover for around 13 minutes. Munitions were stabilized with the use plastic skirts.

<http://bit.ly/2nVCB3l>

Iran shows new main battle tank

(14 Mar 2017) Iran's new Karrer main battle tank (MBT) has entered production, the Ministry of Defense announced on 12 March 2017. Reports indicate that Iran would procure the Karrer MBT rather than importing Russia's T-90 MBT. Analysts believe the new MBT is based on the chassis of the Russian T-72 tank and mimics design features of the T-90MS.

<http://bit.ly/2nLZzKb>

Mubadala and Lockheed Martin launch UAS Payload Challenge in the UAE

(13 Mar 2017) Mubadala Aerospace and Engineering Services together with Lockheed Martin has launched a one year Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Payload Design Challenge. The chal-

lenge is targeting universities across the UAE to compete in designing, developing, and integrating payloads onto the INDAGO UAV platform by Lockheed Martin. According to press reports, student teams are to submit ideas to an industry panel. Winning ideas that had been selected will participate in the competition, which is meant to stimulate the development of human capital in the UAE.

<http://bit.ly/2mzJ8iZ>

Anti-ship ballistic missile tested in Iran

(9 March 2017) Iran seems to have tested the Hormuz-2 radar-guided anti-ship ballistic missile (ASBM), the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced on 9 March. Reports indicated the ASBM has a range of 300km and is equipped with an active radar-homing seeker.

<http://bit.ly/2mzxILT>

Spike missiles launched from unmanned surface vehicle

(8 Mar 2017) A spike missile has been successfully launched from the Protector unmanned surface vehicle (USV), a spokesperson of the Israeli defense company Rafael told *Jane's International Defence Review*. The test also included firing on the move with waves up to 1.5m. Protector is a multi-mission USV that seems to have been equipped with a Typhoon MLS-ER unit that can include up to for Spike ER missiles.

<http://bit.ly/2nK2Gms>

Iran tests new weapons during Velayat 95 naval drills

(8 Mar 2017) Iran has used the latest naval drills that were conducted in the second half of February 2017 to test several new weapon systems, *Al Defaiya* reported on 8 March 2017. Without going into details, the online news portal said Iran's naval forces had tested the new Valfajr torpedo, tracking systems to detect subsurface targets for ASW helicopters, the Dehlaviyeh anti-ship missile, and the latest version of the locally built Nasir coast-to-sea cruise missile.

<http://bit.ly/2nVZhAd>

Sudan modernizes armored vehicles

(6 Mar 2017) Sudan's Military Industry Corporation (MIC) has equipped the BRDM-2 4x4 amphibious scout car with a new, more fuel efficient engine. The vehicle's standard GAZ-41 V-4 water-cooled petrol engine has been replaced with a 6HH-1 6-cylinder diesel engine developing 210hp instead of 140hp, *Jane's International Defence Review* indicated.

In addition, MIC has also developed to additional armored personnel carriers: The Khatim-3 is a self-propelled anti-aircraft gun (SPAAG) system that uses a Russian-designed twin 23mm ZU-23-2 AAG, but could also be equipped with a Chinese 23mm Type 80 AAG. The Khatim-4 missile-launching platform can be used against tanks.

<http://bit.ly/2nrQBoI>; <http://bit.ly/2nKjdGX>

Kuwait's Air Force receives maintenance support from Tapestry Solutions

(7 Mar 2017) Maintenance processes of the Kuwait Air Force (KAF) will receive support from Tapestry Solutions, a Boeing subsidiary, *Al Defaiya* reported on 7 March 2017. Support efforts will focus on automating and standardizing software used for the maintenance, repair and overhaul of the KAF F/A-18 fighter jets.

<http://bit.ly/2nJX4bL>

Technical and vocational training program for Saudi aerospace sector

(7 Mar 2017) Saudi company ALSALAM Aerospace Industry and the Technical and Vocational Training Corp (TVTC) have signed a program to train 500 Saudi high school graduates to work in the aerospace manufacturing and repair sector. TVTC wants to provide specialized technical training programs in partnership with different government agencies and the private sector, *Arab News* reported on 7 March 2017.

<http://bit.ly/2mCBF3m>

L3 WESCAM opens service center in Saudi Arabia

(2 Mar 2017) L3 WESCAM, a manufacturer of multi-spectral imaging systems, will open a new service center in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. To this

purpose, the U.S. company has signed a service center agreement with Taqnia Defense and Security Technology (DST). This is "an important first step toward a growing collaboration that includes future co-production and systems development activities", Dr. Hamad Al-Yousefi, CEO of DST said according to a report published by the online portal *Al Defaiya*.

<http://bit.ly/2mkL3N5>

UAE gets over 1,000 refurbished U.S. MRAP vehicles

(1 Mar 2017) Navistar Defense has received a contract worth US\$440m to reset and upgrade 1,085 MaxxPRO Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles, the *U.S. Department of Defense* announced on 28 February 2017. Work shall be completed by end of March 2019.

<http://bit.ly/2nKaQew>

ADSB and Lockheed Martin sign naval sustainment MoU

(27 Feb 2017) In order to provide sustainment services for the UAE's naval assets, Abu Dhabi Ship Building (ADSB) and Lockheed Martin have signed a MoU. Both companies also join forces to explore opportunities in the regional naval market, a press release published by *Al Defaiya* stated.

<http://bit.ly/2nVTZF0>

Rockwell Collins-Khalifa internship program expanded

(22 Feb 2017) Abu Dhabi-based Khalifa University and Rockwell Collins have announced the latest class of interns. Soon ten undergraduates from the engineering program and nine graduate students will start working at company sites in Europe and the Middle East, *Arabian Aerospace* reported on 22 February 2017. The intern program is part of the UAE's strive to develop relevant local capacities in knowledge-intensive sectors.

<http://bit.ly/2mQzXfL>

Defense Procurement

China to supply 300 Wing Loong II UAV to Saudi Arabia

(20 Mar 2017) Saudi Arabia is said to have placed an order for 300 Wing Loong II UAV, *Defence Blog* reported on 20 March 2017. At the end of February 2017, Xinhua, the Chinese state news agency, said this had been the biggest overseas purchase for China so far, but did not reveal the customer, the size and the value of the contract. As this edition of the ADIP News Bulletin went to press, the story remained to be confirmed by a second independent source.

<http://bit.ly/2mMANJG>

Apache helicopters for Saudi Arabia

(17 Mar 2017) Boeing received a \$3.2bn Foreign Military Sales contract to supply Saudi Arabia with Apache helicopters, the *U.S. Department of Defense* announced on 15 March 2017. The contract covers "full-rate production of remanufactured aircraft and new build aircraft, remanufacture and new build Longbow crew trainers, peculiar ground support equipment, initial spares, integrated logistics support, and engineering technical services." Contract work shall be completed by mid-2022.

<http://bit.ly/2n5AL1U>

South Korea delivers first T-50 to Iraq

(16 Mar 2017) South Korea has delivered the first FA-50 fighter jets with weapons and equipment to the Iraqi Air Force, its commander LTG Anwar Hamad Amin said on 16 March 2017. According to *Jane's* the new fighter jets are expected to enter service soon. Iraq has bought 24 FA-50 jets back in 2013 for less than US\$1.1bn.

<http://bit.ly/2ndUIEp>

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait talk with Rostec about T-90

(16 Mar 2017) According to Rostec CEO Sergey Chemezov, the company is in talks with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait about the possible supply of

the latest generation of T-90 main battle tanks. Both countries show "great interest" in the Russian weapons system, *Al Defaiya* reported. Russia has stopped further orders for the T-90 as its armed forces are going to use the T-14 Armata in the future.

<http://bit.ly/2nK4UCn>

Ka-52 Attack helicopters expected to land in Egypt in 2017

(15 Mar 2017) Earlier reports (ADIP News bulletin dated 10 February 2017, p. 6) indicated Egypt could begin receiving Russia's Ka-52 attack helicopters rather soon. Rostec has confirmed this, *Flight Global* reported. According to the aerospace journal Egypt will start receiving the first helicopters this year. In total, Egypt has placed an order for 46 Ka-52 attack helicopters in December 2015.

<http://bit.ly/2mPGnM1>

Turkey wants to buy S-400 with Russian loan

(14 March 2017) According to Sergey Chemezov, CEO of Rostec, Turkey seeks to get a Russian loan to buy the S-400 missile defense system and other weapons, *TASS* reported on 14 March 2017. Chemezov said no decision had yet been taken, as discussions with the Ministry of Finance were ongoing.

<http://tass.com/defense/935338>

UAE orders Otokar-Tawazun Arma 8x8 armored vehicle

(10 Mar 2017) Al Jasoor, a Joint Venture between Turkey's Otokar and Heavy Vehicles Industries (HVI), a subsidiary of Tawazun, will build the UAE's next 8x8 armored vehicles. The General Headquarters of the UAE Armed Forces has placed an order worth \$661m with Al Jasoor on 10 March 2017. The 8x8 vehicle is based on Otokar's Arma platform. It will be built in Abu Dhabi by using the facilities of the Tawazun Industrial Park, *Otokar* announced.

<http://bit.ly/2mCAjpr>

Turkish landing helicopter docks to receive amphibious vehicles from FNSS

(7 Mar 2017) On 7 March 2017, the Undersecretariat for Defense Industries (SSM) and FNSS have signed a contract to produce 27 Zaha armored amphibious vehicles for the country's future landing helicopter docks. According to press reports the project would be based on FNSS' indigenous technology capabilities, but this remains to be seen.

<http://bit.ly/2nh2BcH>

Qatar to get Raytheon early warning radar

(25 Feb 2017) Qatar seems to have signed a contract with Raytheon for the delivery of an early warning radar system to be integrated into the country's existing air and missile defense system. According to the U.S. Department of Defense, the contract is worth more than \$1bn and shall be completed by mid-2021.

<http://bit.ly/2mwtLZA>; <http://bit.ly/2nMihkB>

Egypt looks set to procure the IOMAX Archangel turboprop aircraft

(23 Feb 2017) According to *Jane's Defence Weekly* the Egyptian Ministry of Defense and turboprop aircraft manufacturer IOMAS are in talks about a contract for the Archangel. So far, the company had been negotiating a support and upgrade contract for twelve AT-802 the UAE had donated to Egypt.

Earlier, Air Tractor and L3 wanted to sell their AT-802 to Egypt "on the basis that it was already fielded and in service with the UAE, whereas in fact this is the IOMAX AT-802 and its successor Archangel", a company official told *Jane's Defence Weekly*.

<http://bit.ly/2m9jEO2>

IDEX2017 sees flurry of contracts for national and international defense suppliers

(23 Feb 2017) This year's IDEX defense exhibition in Abu Dhabi has seen the signature of a record volume of defense contracts worth close to AED19bn (around \$5.1bn) with different defense suppliers. The focus on ammunition resupply as well as maintenance, repair, and

overhaul clearly indicates the needs of the UAE Armed Forces that are engaged in different overseas deployments.

Contracts with local suppliers include:

- Supply of armor mechanisms (8x8) by Tawazun Operation worth AED2,4bn.
- SATCOM terminals by Star Satellite Communications worth AED745.2m
- Ammunition delivery for ground troops by the International Golden Group worth AED394m
- Machinery supply by TRUST worth 300m
- Ammunition and gun supply by Caracal worth AED181m
- Thermal imaging cameras and ground control stations by Abu Dhabi Autonomous Systems Investments worth AED140.3m
- Supply and installation of electronic and communication systems and exchange of information systems by Abu Dhabi Shipbuilding worth AED100m
- Ammunition supply for the Army by Emirates Defence Technology worth AED59.1m
- Ammunition supply by Burkan Munitions Systems worth AED36.3m
- Maintenance, repair and overhaul of Mercedes Benz vehicles by Emirates Motor Company worth AED30m
- Maintenance and supply of spare parts for machinery by Emirates Defence Technology worth AED30m
- Extension of naval cables by E-Marine worth AED27m
- Production and installation for weapons and maintenance of moving targets at shooting ranges by Ahmed Al Mazrouei Metal Industries worth AED20m
- Technical support by Al Futtaim Motors worth AED20m
- Maintenance and services for the Navy by Abu Dhabi Drilling worth AED17m
- Technical support for the Army by Al Ruamithy Establishment worth AED15m
- Development of a marine meteorological system by Naval Advanced Solutions worth about AED14m
- Purchase and supply of rocket launchers by Al Jaber worth AED6.6m

- Technical and medical support for the transport and processing of medical waste by Condor Medical Waste Treatment Company worth AED2.4m
- Contracts with international suppliers include:
- Ammunition for the UAE Air Force and UAE Air Defence Force by Raytheon worth AED1.3bn
 - Ammunition for the Navy by MBDA worth AED343m
 - Patria Land Systems bagged a contract worth AED225m
 - Ammunition by Tuff Global worth AED147m
 - Rental of imaging satellites from Satellite Imaging Technologies worth AED96.9m
 - Supply of defensive walls (fortification) by HESCO worth AED91m
 - Supply of sonar systems by Thales Underwater Systems worth AED85m
 - Spare parts supply, repair services and technical assistance for BMP3 armored vehicles by Beltech Export worth AED52.8m
 - Technical support for the UAE Air Force and UAE Air Defence Force by Dassault Aviation worth AED51m
 - Technical and specialist support for the Air Force Maintenance Center by GAL Air Traffic Control worth AED50m
 - Monitoring equipment from Watts Defence Optics & Hall worth AED40m
 - Supply and installation of air communication system stations by Thales Communications & Security worth AED38.6m
 - Extinguishing mechanisms by Rosenbauer International AG worth AED36.5m
 - Spare parts for telecommunication systems by Thales Communications & Security worth AED26.7m
 - Replacement of SATCOM parts by Star Satellite Telecom worth AED20m
 - Technical and logistical support to Bell407 helicopters by North Star Aviation worth AED15m
 - Technical support contract with Rheinmetall Air Defence worth AED6.8m

<http://bit.ly/2mCJBBD>; <http://bit.ly/2mzUFif>

Egypt about to receive 50 MiG-29 jets before 2020

(21 Feb 2017) Russia will provide Egypt with 50 MiG-29 fighter jets before 2020, Alexey Frolkin, Deputy Director of the Russian Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation (FSMTC), said during the 2017 IDEX defense exhibition in Abu Dhabi, *Daily News* reported with reference to Russian news agency *Sputnik*. By contrast, the Egyptian armed forces media office said there was no official statement on the agreement, which dates back to a visit by Russian President Vladimir Putin to Egypt in 2014, or the delivery schedule of the jets.

<http://bit.ly/2ns6Phw>

Military Cooperation and Training

CAE expands presence in Abu Dhabi

(17 Mar 2017) Canadian Aviation Electronics (CAE), one of the leading suppliers of simulation solutions for civil aviation and defense, is to expand its presence in Abu Dhabi, *Arabian Aerospace* reported on 17 March 2017. CAE has been selected for a range of different training programs of the UAE Armed Forces. Right now, the company is designing and developing the Naval Training Center for the UAE Navy and is developing helicopter simulators for the UAE Joint Aviation Command. The company's extended facilities in Abu Dhabi will bring together staff from CAE and CAE Maritime Middle East.

<http://bit.ly/2n5TTxx>

Bahraini-Egyptian-Emirati naval exercise

(17 Mar 2017) Upon the occasion of the Hamad 2 naval exercise, Bahraini King Hamas bin Isa Al-Khalifa received Egyptian Navy Commander RADM Ahmed Khaled Hassan Said. The King said the "military drill reflects deep-rooted historic relations and growing military and defense cooperation", according to *Al Defaiya*. He also underlined the value of such exercises in confronting regional challenges and defeating terrorism. Hamad 2 brings together air, ground, and naval units from Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt.

<http://bit.ly/2nKsDCD>; <http://bit.ly/2nD66L4>

Belarus and Turkey seek closer ties

(16 Mar 2017) On 15 March 2017, Oleg Vionov, Chief of the International Military Cooperation Department, Assistant to the Defense Minister for Foreign Military Policy, met with Nilvana Darama, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Turkey to Belarus. Both sides "exchanged opinions on the international and regional security matters, discussed the state and prospects of the Belarusian-Turkish military cooperation, and confirmed the interest of the two countries in further developing and strengthening of bilateral cooperation in the military sector," the *Belarusian Ministry of Defense* reported.

<http://bit.ly/2mkKt1T>

Officer training course for Israel's corvettes completed

(16 Mar 2017) Israel is to receive the first of four new Sa'ar 6 corvettes built by thyssenkrupp Marine Systems in mid-2019 and has recently completed the first training course for officers to be deployed on these platforms. The training "includes learning how to use very complex, new radars" and other systems, LTC Eli Soholizky told *Jane's Defence Weekly* on 12 March 2017.

<http://bit.ly/2mHOoto>

Saudi Arabia receives Malaysian submarine training offer

(1 Mar 2017) During the four-day visit of Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud to Malaysia at the end of February 2017, Malaysia's defense minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein told local newspapers that Saudi Arabia could receive Malaysian submarine training.

He said: "(Saudi Arabia does) not have any submarine fleet and in (its) planning might want to expand the submarine classes there, but while waiting for the submarines for Saudi Arabia, we probably can ensure training for their navy personnel." So far, Malaysia is operating two Scorpene submarines built by DCNS.

In addition, the minister also revealed Malaysia's interest in purchasing and financing a fighter aircraft and helicopter from Saudi surplus assets, *MalayMail Online* reported.

<http://bit.ly/2nhaFdn>

Qatar and Italy join forces on naval training

(1 Mar 2017) Following the signature of a contract worth \$4bn for seven naval vessels from Fincantieri, the heads of the Qatari and Italian navy have signed a training agreement on 1 March 2017. The agreement covers "the enrollment of Qataris at Italian Navy training centers, the embarking of Qatari Navy personnel on Italian vessels, and the dispatch of an Italian naval liaison officer to the Qatar naval headquarters in Doha", *Defense News* reported.

<http://bit.ly/2m9dYni>

Cybersecurity and Space

Turkey set to establish space agency

(1 Mar 2017) The Turkish parliament has received a government bill to launch a new space agency, *Defense News* reported. According to the journal, the agency's mission would include "reducing dependence on foreign technology, coordinating work for space platforms, launching facilities and systems, and helping develop, integrate, launch, monitor and operate aerospace systems." According to the law the new agency would also be entitled to establish companies at home or abroad, stake stakes in existing companies or acquiring companies.

<http://bit.ly/2mg7Qc8>