



Arab Defense Industry Papers News Bulletin

Volume 1, Number 3

1 November 2016

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

Tunisia denies existence of U.S. drone base

(28 Oct 2016) The Tunisian Ministry of Defense has denied a report by Washington Post's indicating that the U.S. had been flying surveillance drones out of unspecified bases in Tunisia. As part of Tunisian-U.S. cooperation, the U.S. drones were acquired to train Tunisia's military personnel to use this technology in order to control the southeastern border with Libya and detect any suspicious movement there, a defense ministry spokesman said. During late June 2016, many American Air Force Reaper drones began flying out of the Tunisian base and since then the force has been conducting surveillance operations over Libya. Although around 70 members of the U.S. military are said to support the drones, military relations between both the nations are limited on training only, as had already been announced in March 2016, the official said.

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

UAE military base in Libya revealed

(28 Oct 2016) The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is using the Al-Khadim Airport in the Marj province of Libya to operate AT-802 light attack aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles. This was revealed by IHS Jane's based on satellite imagery obtained by Airbus Defense and Space. The location is used to support the Libyan National Army (LNA) to fight Islamist militants.

At the beginning of this year, there was little infrastructure at Al-Khadim, but by 27 June 2016 satellite imagery already showed hangars under construction. At around the same time pictures of an Air Tractor AT-802 light attack aircraft were circulating on social media. According to the journal the aircraft had been modified by the U.S. company IOMAX to carry an electro-optical pod, guided bombs, missiles, rockets, and guns. In late September 2016 the Shura Council of Benghazi Revolutionaries, an Islamist grouping fighting the LNA released an infographic claiming it had been attacked, inter alia, by AT-802 aircraft and Predator UAVs operated by the UAE and Italy.

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

Oman used to supply weapons from Iran to Yemen?

(21 Oct 2016) News agency Reuters quotes several U.S., Western and Iranian officials that Tehran has stepped up weapons transfers to the Houthis, the militia fighting the Saudi-backed government in Yemen. The article indicates that smuggling activity is being done through Oman, which neighbors Yemen, including via overland routes that take advantage of porous borders between the two countries. "We have been concerned about the recent flow of weapons from Iran into Yemen and have conveyed those concerns to those who maintain relations with the Houthis, including the Omani government," the official told Reuters. In a reaction, Oman has denied any weapons smuggling across its border, and its officials could not be reached for comment. Yemeni and senior regional officials say the Omanis are not actively involved with the transfers, but rather turning a blind eye and failing to aggressively crack down on the flow.

<http://bit.ly/2f8zWi6>

Saudi Arabia under threat of losing allies

(19 Oct 2016) At a time when Saudi Arabia is embarking on a most demanding national transformation process with Vision 2030, international pressure is increasing. Growing international concern over the conduct of military operations in Yemen as well as the U.S. Justice Against State Sponsors of Terrorism (JSATA) bill illustrate that Saudi Arabia could become more isolated and risks losing allies. Against this background we provide the following excerpts from a recent analysis by Olivier Guitta, Managing Director of GlobalStrat, as published by online news platform Observer on 19 October 2016:

The uproar in the West against the selling of weapons to the KSA has been growing louder, particularly in light of the escalating Yemen campaign. From Canada under fire for a 2014 \$15 billion contract—that the government said it won't cancel—to Sweden cutting off military cooperation that had been going on since 2005, to the UK, where talk of halting arms exports if humanitarian laws are broken in Yemen. In light of the historically close relationship with the UK, Saudi Arabia didn't take these threats well: for proof, the Saudi Ambassador in London hinted that

there could be less cooperation on terrorism and a possible reduction of contracts and investments.

The situation is serious because even the United States takes a tough stance on the KSA. The Kingdom understands this and has hired five additional lobbying firms in Washington, DC since September to defend its interests in the U.S. and alter its image.

The Obama Administration's decision and strategy to pivot toward the Shia world and Iran have left the KSA in the dust. It looks like archenemy Iran has won the public relations war against Saudi Arabia—at least in the West. Iran, all of a sudden, became the nice kid on the block because of the nuclear deal. Saudi Arabia became the bad one.

The West isn't the only one distancing itself from Saudi Arabia. In fact, tensions with close allies have increased since the arrival to power of King Salman in January 2015. The main contention point is the renewed support of the kingdom to the Muslim Brotherhood and some Salafi-Jihadi groups. First, the rapprochement with the Muslim Brotherhood is driving a wedge with both the UAE and Egypt. Both countries view the Muslim Brotherhood as a mortal danger. A new lenient policy toward the Muslim Brotherhood under King Salman is all the more bizarre, given that the organization is still on the list of terrorist groups in Saudi Arabia. Also, Saudi Arabia has been the destination of choice for Muslim Brotherhood leaders such as Hamas' Khaled Meshaal, Tunisia's Rachid Ghanouchi, Jordan's Said and Yemen's al Zindani.

Second and even more problematic is the alleged funding and material help Saudi Arabia is providing to the ex/present/future al-Qaeda franchise in Syria, the former al Nusra front. This de facto alliance is something against nature since one of al Qaeda's main enemies remain the Saudi regime. This fits in a new realpolitik from Riyadh that has embraced the Middle East policy that the enemy of my enemy is my friend. In Syria, Assad is much more of an enemy than al-Qaeda.

The most hurtful recent challenge to Saudi Arabia's status took place at a UAE-financed worldwide conference of Sunni religious figures that included leaders such as Cairo's Al Azhar imam. The clerics concluded that Wahhabism, the principal tenet of the Saudi regime, was not part of Sunni Islam. This is very significant because it is jeopardizing Saudi's legitimacy as the Custodian of Islam's holiest sites.

<http://bit.ly/2e5clxQ>

Russian plans for Egypt could stir up controversy

(19 October 2016) Russia seems to broaden its naval presence in the MENA region. In addition to naval berthing rights in Syria, reports indicate that Russia is negotiating with Egypt to rent a naval base in Sidi Barrani. Although Egyptian sources are refuting this idea, bilateral military cooperation has been strengthened as of recently.

A few weeks ago, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said that Russia saw Egypt as a country that plays a key role in maintaining stability in the Middle East and North Africa. He added that Moscow intended to support Cairo in this capacity. Recent joint military drills should be seen in this light. In addition, Egypt's Navy is beefing up its capabilities with two Mistral helicopter carriers that will most likely use Russian helicopters such as KA-52. As a result, Egypt will become the only country in the region that will have this type of naval hardware.

All of this must be seen in the context of ongoing Arab discussions about creating inter-Arab forces. Implementing this vision is impossible without the participation of Egypt, the largest Arab country. Building a strategic partnership with Cairo also in the military sphere will leverage Moscow's role in view of the likely new Inter-Arab force. And thus provide Russia with more opportunities to influence development in the region. However, Russia should be mindful of the fact that Egyptians treasure their land and value their unconditional sovereignty and territorial integrity. This is very important to understand in the discussion of the questions about the status of Russia's would-be naval base.

<http://bit.ly/2fn0LEf>; <http://bit.ly/2eMnRIS>

Algeria discussing defense cooperation with European nations

(19 Oct 2016) Algeria seems to be discussing increased defense cooperation with several European countries. Algerian Deputy Defense Minister, Army Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General Ahmed Gaid Salah has held head-to-head meetings with counterparts from Italy, Spain and France, the Algerian Defense Ministry said in a statement. Main point of discussion has been bi-

lateral military cooperation and regional interests. Algeria is chairing the 5+5 Defense Initiative, which counts countries located on both sides of the Mediterranean Sea, including Tunisia, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Spain, Portugal, France, Italy and Malta.

<http://bit.ly/2dUu3ck>

Qatar-Indonesia defense cooperation

(15 Oct 2016) Indonesian Defense Minister Ryamizard Ryacudu has invited his Qatari counterpart Khalid Bin Mohammed Al Attiyah to attend the Indo Defense 2016 exhibition taking place in Jakarta on November 2-5 in order to strengthen security relations between the two countries.

Currently, Qatar is importing military outfits for its military forces from Indonesia's leading textile and garment manufacturers PT. Sritex. According to the Indonesians, Qatar is interested in studying the military products manufactured by the Indonesian state-owned enterprise specializing in military and commercial products PT. Pindad, the Indonesian aerospace company PT. Dirgantara Indonesia, and the Indonesian ship-building company PT. PAL. In addition, the Qatar Police is said to study how the Indonesian Police prevents juvenile delinquency and crimes on teenagers and trafficking.

<http://bit.ly/2e4fuOv>

Japan to expand Djibouti military base

(14 October 2016) In a move to counter growing Chinese influence in the region, Japan is eyeing to lease additional land by next year to expand its military base in Djibouti. Japan is considering deploying C-130 transport aircraft, Bushmaster armored vehicles and extra personnel to the base but has not yet decided on how many. Earlier this year, Japan also pledged to increase its support to infrastructure, education and healthcare projects in Africa, committing an extra \$30 billion in public and private support.

<http://bit.ly/2f4v4fb>

Russia ratifies Syrian base deal

(14 Oct 2016) Russian President Vladimir Putin has ratified an agreement with the Syrian government that allows Russia to use the Hmeimim air base in Syria indefinitely. The Kremlin said costs associated with the agreement ratified by Putin will fall within normal defense spending in each year's federal budget. On a different occasion, Russia also announced plans to build a permanent naval base in Tartus, the Syrian port already used by the Russian navy.

<https://yhoo.it/2eLvXv8>

Yemeni missiles still a mystery, while U.S. hits Yemeni radar sites

(14 Oct 2016) Analysts are still assessing which missiles have been used in the perceived Houthi attack on US vessels. There has been widespread suspicion, but no confirmation as yet, that Iranian-supplied anti-ship missile systems were used in the recent attacks in the Red Sea.

International analysts are still unsure about what missiles and target acquisition systems the Yemeni rebels are using. AFP cited an unidentified senior defense official as saying they are believed to have a type of the Chinese-made C-802 anti-ship missiles. That could be interpreted as a reference to Iran's Noor version of the C-802, which has a range of 120 km.

However, that assertion was undermined by an earlier report that they had a far shorter range. A US official told Reuters that one missile travelled more than 24 n miles (44.5 km) before coming down in the sea. That is a close fit for the C-801, which has a stated range of 42 km and was acquired by the Yemeni Navy in the 1990s.

Earlier the Pentagon acknowledged U.S. "limited self-defense strikes" against radar sites in Yemen suspected of being involved in the attacks against U.S. vessels.

<http://bit.ly/2fvN5pW>; <http://bit.ly/2edQzeA>

Turkey accused of shipping arms to Libya

(13 Oct 2016) Libyan officials are accusing Turkey of providing "direct military support" to Islamist militias operating in western Libya. The Libyan National Army (LNA) submitted eye-

witness reports and satellite imagery during an informal meeting at the European Parliament on 12 October 2016.

<http://bit.ly/2dUsGu4>

Flying IEDs by ISIS a new threat

(12 Oct 2016) Reports have stated that an explosives-laden Islamic State drone killed two Kurdish peshmerga troops and wounded two French paratroopers early this month in the vicinity of Erbil, Iraq. It is believed to be the first time the militant group has inflicted such casualties. According to U.S. Air Force Col. John Dorrian, Operation Inherent Resolve spokesman, "it's a threat that's not new to the area".

There are at least two other instances over the last month that ISIS has tried to use drones to deliver explosives, according to the New York Times. ISIS isn't the only militant group to use drone warfare. An al-Qaida offshoot, Jund al-Qsa, purportedly also has used a drone landing on Syrian military barracks. In another video, small explosives purportedly dropped by the Iran-backed Shiite militant group Hezbollah target the Sunni militant group Jabhat Fatah al-Sham, formerly known as the Nusra Front, near Aleppo.

<http://bit.ly/2deOR93>

Iran sends naval vessels to Africa and the Atlantic

(12 Oct 2016) Iranian Navy Commander Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari has stated that the 43rd flotilla of the Iranian Navy will set off for the high seas to safeguard maritime routes used by Iranian vessels operating in international waters in Africa and the Atlantic Ocean. He indicated that the flotilla would embark on a journey to South Africa, Tanzania and the Atlantic Ocean in case of clement weather conditions. The flotilla of warships will start its voyage after the 42nd fleet of the Iranian Navy returns home. Iran indicated that the 43rd flotilla would be dispatched to protect trade ships and oil tankers against pirates in the Gulf of Aden, Bab al-Mandab and the Red Sea.

<http://bit.ly/2f4rGAW>

Syrian anti-Assad rebels seeking anti-aircraft weapons

(11 Oct 2016) Syria's main opposition group has called for foreign allies to supply rebel forces with ground-to-air weapons to counter deadly air raids in Aleppo. After gathering for two days of talks in the Saudi capital, the High Negotiations Committee (HNC) spokesman Salem al-Meslet said that the opposition was counting on "brotherly countries and friends... to lift the embargo on sophisticated weapons imposed on the opposition." Washington's Arab allies, led by Saudi Arabia, have demanded that opposition rebels fighting Assad be given advanced weapons such as shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles (MANPADS)

<http://bit.ly/2f4vXV3>

Defense Industry

Pakistan calls for trilateral defense cooperation with Qatar and Turkey

(28 Oct 2016) Pakistan's minister for defence production, Rana Tanveer Hussain, has called for his country to enter trilateral defense industrial collaboration programs with Qatar and Turkey. During a meeting on October 27 2016, where he met his counterparts from Qatar, Khalid bin Mohammad Al Attiyah, Hussain said that the three countries should leverage their strong ties by setting up defense manufacturing joint ventures. Al Attiyah stated that Qatar was "desirous" of acquiring the JF-17 Thunder combat aircraft developed and produced by the Pakistan Aeronautical Complex (PAC) and China's Chengdu Aircraft Industry Corporation.

<http://bit.ly/2edVs7H>

Chinese drone makers target MENA/Africa

(27 October 2016) China is targeting Middle East and African countries to win export contracts for its unmanned air vehicles (UAVs). Nanyang Technology is acquiring the Caihong (Rainbow) series of UAVs from China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC). The company will also gain rights to build two types of air-to-ground missiles. Because of strict export

controls the U.S. administration has refused to supply armed UAVs to countries in these regions whereas Chinese UAVs are already in use in Egypt, Iraq, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Yemen and Nigeria.

<http://bit.ly/2edQ98f>

UGEV Iran unveiled

(27 October 2016) According to *IHS Jane's* Iran's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) seems to be developing an unmanned ground effect vehicle (UGEV). This was revealed by a report published by the *Tasnim* news agency on 26 October, but removed from its website a few hours later. The report described it as a "combat-reconnaissance drone" that had been developed by the IRGC's naval wing and can carry military night vision systems that work in high humidity environments. It is stated that the drone has a range of 1,000 km, can fly as low as 50 cm above the sea, can reach a maximum altitude of 3,000 ft, and has a maximum speed of 200 km/h.

Iran already has experience in developing GEVs, having unveiled the Bavar-2, which comes in single- and two-seat variants, in 2010. A larger two-engine GEV has been seen in satellite imagery of the Iran Shipbuilding and Offshore Industries Complex (ISOIC) shipyard near Bostanu on 6 October 2014.

<http://bit.ly/2e4kXVH>

Egyptian company develops new Temash MRAP

(23 Oct 2016) Egypt's Kader Factory for Developed Industries has unveiled the new Temash Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle (MRAP). The vehicle can carry a crew of six and provides protection against attacks by 7.62mm caliber and shell splinters. Kader Factory for Developed Industry is part of the state-owned Arab Organization for Industrialization.

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

Two new military radars unveiled in Iran

(22 Oct 2016) Iran's Defense Ministry has unveiled new aerial navigation and tracking systems, including two military radars. The new products were unveiled at a ceremony in the

southwestern city of Shiraz, attended by Defense Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan. One of them, Me'raj-4, is a ground radar equipped with anti-electronic warfare systems and capable of tracking 200 targets. The other radar, dubbed Matla'-ol-Fajr 3, is employed for detecting targets in a range of 500 kilometers.

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

Katmerciler Turkey targeting War Trucks

(21 Oct 2016) Turkish vehicle equipment maker Katmerciler (see ADIP News Bulletin no. 1, 20 September 2016, p. 4), is shifting its product line as the government's security priority moves from crowd control and protests in cities to asymmetric warfare in the nation's southeast. During an upcoming exhibition on 9 November 2016 in Istanbul, the company will showcase two new armored personnel carriers providing better protection against mine and bomb blasts. In addition, the company is working on a vehicle with ceramic armor based on a Jeep Wrangler Rubicon platform. The company could start its own ceramic armor production at its Ankara facilities, depending on the vehicle's success in winning government tenders, a company official said. The company could also set up defense subsidiaries and might consider selling stakes to minority shareholders.

<http://bloom.bg/2eOCJ4J>

Rolls-Royce seeks to participate in Turkey's next-gen fighter program

(15 Oct 2016) In tandem with BAE Systems, the aero-propulsion producer Rolls-Royce is interested in participating in TFX, Turkey's next-generation fighter program. According to Turkish daily *Daily Sabah*, the recent visit by Rolls-Royce CEO Warren East to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was driven by the company's interest to provide the EJ200 turbofan for use on the TFX. The EJ200, developed by the Eurojet Turbo GmbH consortium to which Rolls-Royce belongs as well, is currently used onboard the Eurofighter Typhoon.

<http://bit.ly/2eLz06r>

South African EW system displayed in Egypt

(14 Oct 2016) The Egyptian Armed Forces displayed a new mobile electronic warfare (EW) system for the first time during a parade marking the October 1973 war with Israel. The system was labeled as the GSY2210 and the announcer for the television coverage of the parade said it was a radio communications reconnaissance and jamming system that had been made in South Africa and entered Egyptian service in 2011. While the GSY2210 has never been heard of before, the GSY 1450, GSY 1501 and GSY 1800 systems were made by the South African company Grintek Ewation, which is now GEW Technologies.

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

Defense Exports

South Korea mulling Israeli reconnaissance satellite

(21 Oct 2016) South Korea is considering leasing a reconnaissance satellite possibly from Israel to obtain independent information on North Korea's military activities. So far South Korea mainly depends on reconnaissance satellites operated by the U.S. South Korea's Ministry of National Defense stated that "the military is expected to have its own surveillance satellites as early as 2023 that will allow Seoul to closely monitor military activities in North Korea."

<http://bit.ly/2ecPTW3>

Defense Modernization and Support

Syria is a "test lab" for Russian weapon systems

(28 Oct 2016) Russian Ka-52K attack helicopters deployed on the Admiral Kuznetsov aircraft carrier will test-fire the latest Hermes extreme-range anti-tank guided missiles for the first time in Syria in the battle with IS, Russian newspaper *Izvestiya* reported. The newspaper quoted a source working for Russia's military-industrial complex, who said it had been decided "to test the Hermes in more difficult, ship-borne air operations." The Ka-52K will be able to destroy enemy tanks, fortifications and manpower at a dis-

tance of 20 miles. The range of similar Russian and foreign systems (Ataka, Vikhr, Hellfire, and others) is less than 6 miles. The missile, which can be deployed on ground-tracked vehicles, helicopters, and on ships can hit enemy armored vehicles autonomously, even if they are out of sight of the helicopter crew.

In addition, Syrian Air Force MiG-29 jets are equipped with Russia's medium-range air-to-air missiles R-77, as video recordings published by the *Syrian Radio & TV Agency* illustrate. Sources also state that the Syrian jets have received an advance avionics suite, which has allowed R-77 family missiles and KAB-500 guided air bombs to enter the planes' weapon suite.

<http://bit.ly/2eMsrOq>; <http://bit.ly/2duVsg1>

Iranian APS mounted on Zolfaqar tanks

(25 Oct 2016) The Iranian Army has tested its first homemade Active Protection System (APS) mounted on Zolfaqar tanks. The engineering sample of the APS has been built based on the phased-array radar system and the primary tests have been carried out successfully. The system can be mounted on all armored vehicles and tanks. Both of the APSs which are based on the pulse-doppler radar and phased-array radar systems are equipped with four arms systems and can cover a full circle (360 degrees) of sight.

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

Al Tariq guided weapons supply to UAE completed

(24 Oct 2016) Joint venture partners Tawazun and Denel Dynamics have completed the supply of 600 Al Tariq guided weapons to the UAE, *defenceWeb* reported. The supply had been interrupted in the past due to technical challenges resulting from the development of the new weapon system, which is integrated on to the UAE's Mirage 2000 fighter jets.

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

Turkey to upgrade Leopard 2s, M60s

(18 Oct 2016) According to Defense News Turkey is currently mulling the option of upgrading around 100 Leopard 2 and close to 300 M60 main battle tanks. Industry sources estimate the

upgrade program could cost around \$3-4m per tank amounting to around total cost of \$1bn. Turkey's Undersecretariat for Defense Industries (SSM) is expected to award the contract for the Leopard 2 upgrade to a newly formed trilateral joint venture including RBSS, Rheinmetall's Turkish subsidiary, BMC of Turkey and Indonesia-based Etika Strategy. In addition, Turkey may upgrade the U.S.-built M60 main battle tanks in cooperation with Israeli partners. This could continue earlier cooperation with Israeli Military Industries (IMI) in the 1990s.

<http://bit.ly/2eI0i1v>

Defense Procurement

Bahrain receives Chinese rocket system

(28 Oct 2016) China North Industries Corporation (NORINCO) has delivered the first batch of its SR5 multiple launch rocket system to the Royal Army of Bahrain. According to press reports the launchers can fire 220 mm and 150 mm rockets equipped with various warheads at different ranges. In addition to the Chinese Army the SR5 rocket system is also in use by the Venezuelan armed forces.

<http://bit.ly/2e7pM3w>

Russian equipment deal with Jordan under restructured credit plan

(27 Oct 2016) Russia has ratified an agreement with Jordan under which the kingdom will acquire Russian military materiel and services valued at \$387.3m over the next two years under an arrangement to restructure a credit agreement with the countries that was signed in 2006, *RIA Novosti* reported on 26 October 2016. Jordan has previously acquired air defense equipment from Russia (and the Soviet Union prior to 1990) and received SA-24 Igla and 9M113 Kornet missile systems between 2009 and 2012.

<http://bit.ly/2f4zu5T>

Qatar takes delivery of Leopard 2A7+ MBTs

(27 Oct 2016) German defense contractor Krauss-Maffei Wegmann (KMW) has delivered

almost half of the 62 Leopard 2A7+ series main battle tanks (MBTs) on contract to Qatar, *IHS Jane's* reported. The Leopard 2A7+ is the most advanced Leopard by KWM optimized for operation in the high temperatures encountered in the Middle East. In addition to the bustle-mounted air conditioning system the vehicle is also fitted with the latest armor package, roof-mounted FLW200 remote weapon station (RWS) armed with a stabilized .50 M2 HB machine gun, additional external turret stowage and a 17 kW auxiliary power unit mounted internally at the rear of the hull on the right side.

Rheinmetall Waffe Munition in Germany is supplying its 120 mm tank ammunition including latest DM11 programmable high-explosive, while Rheinmetall Denel Munition in South Africa is providing a 155 mm ammunition suite including projectiles, modular charge systems and fuses.

<http://bit.ly/2e4q5Ja>

Egypt expects first German submarine in early 2017

(21 Oct 2016) Egyptian news sources have quoted Egyptian Navy Commander Ossama Rabie who stated that Egypt will receive a submarine from Germany in early 2017. The Dolphin class (Type 209) submarine will be the first of its kind to join the Egyptian Navy, he added in a press conference on the celebration of Navy Day. Later on three other German submarines will be delivered too. Egyptian Navy officers are currently being trained in Germany on using the submarine.

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

Number of contractors in Iraq increases

(20 Oct 2016) With Iraqi forces advancing on Mosul, an assessment shows that the number of contractors supporting U.S. operations there has increased by 48% since the beginning of 2016, *Defense One* indicated. As of 1 October 2016, there were 2,992 contractors involved in the effort, up from 1,403 last October. About one-third of those workers are supporting logistics and maintenance for American troops there. The second-largest grouping (15%) of contractors is supporting American bases, while 14% are

working as interpreters. About 239 are working in security roles. Those 2,992 are supporting more than 4,400 American troops in Iraq, with 500 more are on the way to train and advise Iraqi security forces.

<http://bit.ly/2e4vmR9>

Turkish T-LORAMIDS tender opened for Russia

(18 Oct 2016) In a sign of further military rapprochement between both countries, Turkey has re-invited Russia to compete with the S-300 air defense system for the ongoing procurement of a new Long-Range Air and Missile Defense System (T-LORAMIDS). In a surprising move, Ankara decided to award the contract to China Precision Machinery Import-Export Corp (CPMIEC) in September 2013. But since then negotiations seem to have stalled while international pressure on Ankara rose. More recently, a European consortium led by MBDA seemed to be the frontrunner. According to analysts, the overture to Russia should primarily be seen as gesture of goodwill rather than a decision by Ankara to purchase the Russian system, which had been among the original competitors together with a U.S. system.

<http://bit.ly/2f3Xl69>

Eight French fighter jets to Egypt in 2017

(15 Oct 2016) Eight new Rafale fighter jets are joining the Egyptian Air Force next year, the Egyptian state-owned newspaper al-Akhbar reported. As of next year, the Egyptian Air Force will operate 14 Rafale jets of a total order of 24 jets placed in February 2015. Egypt is due to receive the remaining jets within two years.

<http://bit.ly/2fmJ0oC>

Review of British arms sales to Saudi Arabia

(15 Oct 2016) From 2010 to early 2016 UK defense suppliers have delivered defense systems worth £5.6bn to Saudi Arabia – but the lucrative partnership comes under pressure amid recent reports indicating that Saudi Arabia is responsible for the killing of more than 140 mourners at a funeral in Yemen. A report by the Saudi-led coalition's Joint Incidents Assessment Team

(JIAT) admitted responsibility on Saturday but blamed “wrong information” from allies of the Yemeni government, which it is supporting in the country's civil war. The report also claimed that the Air Operation Centre in Yemen directed a “close air support mission” to target the funeral hall without approval from the coalition's commanders. In reaction to this report, the British Government said it would consider the terms of its weapons supplies to Saudi Arabia, The Independent reported. So far British Ministers have repeatedly rejected calls for a pause in weapons sales amid frequent reports of war crimes.

<http://ind.pn/2egXzEQ>; <http://bit.ly/2f4XR3b>

Jordan to receive LM Long Range Radars

(14 Oct 2016) US defense contractor Lockheed Martin (LM) has been awarded \$41 million contract to procure, deliver, and install Gap Filler Radar to Jordan. LM will provide two long range radars, and three upgrades to existing long range radars, and integrate new and upgraded radar into the overall command, control and communications system. Work is expected to be complete by 30 April 2018. This contract is 100% foreign military sales to Jordan.

<http://bit.ly/2er2raL>

Israel targets new German submarines

(14 Oct 2016) Four years after the heated debate regarding the question of whether or not the IDF Navy needs a sixth submarine, Germany and Israel have initiated negotiations regarding the acquisition of additional submarines. Negotiations have begun at the top political and defense levels and are currently regarded as preliminary. The sixth submarine, which is scheduled for 2018, was included as an option in the original contract signed for the fourth and fifth submarine in 2012. According to international press reports the torpedo tube of the Dolphin submarines have been adapted to launch cruise missiles carrying nuclear warheads.

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

UAE defense expenditure to reach total of \$140.8bn by 2021

(14 Oct 2016) In order to modernize its armed forces and beef up defense capabilities the UAE is expected to rise defense expenditure from the current average of around \$22.4bn (2012-2016) to around \$28.2bn during 2017-2021, a new report by *Strategic Defence Intelligence* suggests. Among other things, the report identifies the need for critical infrastructure protection, ongoing territorial disputes with Iran, and initiatives to expand the domestic defense industry as the main drivers. During the forecasted period, the Emirates are expected to spend a total of \$53.1bn on defense procurement with a key focus on aerial platforms, missiles, naval platforms and surveillance areas. Some other investments will be in reconnaissance, space, cyber security, border control, and digital warfare initiatives.
<http://bit.ly/2dYf9Q8>

U.S. supplies new radar system to Kuwait

(13 Oct 2016) The US State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to Kuwait for radar field systems and related equipment, training, and support. The Government of Kuwait has requested a possible total sale of six Short Range Radars, otherwise known as Gap Filler Radars, one Long Range Radar with Primary Surveillance Radar (PSR) and Secondary Surveillance Radar (SSR) arrays, upgrades to existing AN/FPS 117 (V) 3 Long Range Radar, upgrades to airfield radome and communications systems, upgrade to secure Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) systems, site surveys, installation and checkout, site acceptance testing, interim contractor support, construction, contractor logistics support, spares, support equipment, and training. The total estimated value of this sale is \$194 million.
<http://bit.ly/2fmQx6Z>

U.S. confirms Cessna sale to Iraq

(11 Oct 2016) The U.S. has okayed the sale of Cessna's for military operations against al-Qaida affiliate and ISIS forces to Iraq, *Defense News* reported. Iraq originally purchased three AC-208 Combat Caravans and three C-208s in 2008. The

principal contractor is Orbital ATK. The aircraft are equipped with dual-rail LAU-131 Hellfire launchers on each wing, AN/ALE-47 electronic countermeasure dispensers, AN/AAR-60 missile launch warning systems and AN/AAQ-35 electro-optical infrared imaging systems.
<http://bit.ly/2f0AyKa>

Sniper Pods Kuwaiti Typhoons

(10 Oct 2016) Lockheed Martin (LM) has been awarded a contract to provide Sniper advanced targeting pods for Eurofighter Typhoons used by Kuwait. According to the contract with the Aircraft division of Leonardo-Finmeccanica, LM will supply 18 pods for Kuwaiti Typhoons, plus integration and logistics support. Pod deliveries will begin in 2017.
<http://bit.ly/2f5kl47>

Military Cooperation and Training

Turkish-Pakistani naval exercise

(30 Oct 2016) The Turkish Navy and the Pakistani Navy have conducted a naval exercise at the end of October 2016 in the Arabian Sea. According to press reports, the exercise covered anti-air warfare operations. It is interesting to note that the Turkish Navy participated with its corvette TCG *Büyükada*. The vessel arrived on 26 October 2016 in the port of Karachi. TCG *Büyükada* includes a 76mm naval gun, tow twin 324 mm torpedo tubes, eight launchers for anti-ship missiles, and the RIM-116 close-in weapon system. Ankara and Karachi are currently in talks to jointly develop a similar platform for Pakistan's Navy.
<http://bit.ly/2e5gvGh>; <http://bit.ly/2f0Ne3O>

Libyan coast guard and naval training EU

(27 Oct 2016) The European Union Naval Force's (EUNAVFOR's) Operation 'Sophia' in the Mediterranean has launched a training program for Libya's navy and coast guard, the EU announced on 27 October 2016. Training will focus on the disruption of smuggling and human trafficking, as well as search and rescue activities,

the first training module will be carried out over the next three months, the EU said.

<http://bit.ly/2eMe5QR>

\$75 million deal UAE approved U.S. State

(26 Oct 2016) The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to the United Arab Emirates for exercise participation support. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress of this possible sale on October 21, 2016. The Government of the UAE requested a possible sale to include participation in military exercises, aerial refueling, airlift and ferry support, training aids/devices/munitions, technical and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated cost is \$75 million.

<http://bit.ly/2e52Lem>

Joint GCC Security Exercise "Arab Gulf Security 1" kicks off

(26 Oct 2016) Saudi Security Forces are taking part in the first joint GCC security/counter-terrorism exercise, which kicked off in Bahrain in October 2016. "Arab Gulf Security 1" will bring together specialized formations on counter-terrorism, protection of land and sea borders, installations and public and economic utilities, supported by various multi-purpose mechanisms, gunboats, several units, a number of aircrafts dedicated for security-related operations, in addition to equipment, weapons and other necessary appliances. This joint security exercise is the first of its kind in the Gulf region. During the last meeting of GCC Ministers of the Interior, Bahrain was chosen to host the first edition of the anti-terror exercise.

<http://bit.ly/2eeF7iX>

First Egyptian FREMM training by DCI

(19 Oct 2016) Egypt's purchase of French FREM multi-mission frigates also includes a training package. According to press reports, the first training has been done by DCI for Tahy Misr FREMM and the first two crews of the Gamal

Abdel Nasser and Anouar El Sadat amphibious assault ships. The DCI group assumed responsibility for training the Egyptian crews of the multi-mission frigate and the two amphibious assault ships acquired by Cairo in 2015. DCI, in cooperation with the French Navy, supported the Egyptian Navy for several months as the crews underwent familiarization with the ships and learned how to operate them safely.

<http://bit.ly/2e56Pvr>

Tunisian forces to receive UK training

(18 Oct 2016) UK Defense Secretary Michael Fallon has said that British troops will train Tunisian forces to counter ISIS. A short-term training team comprising nearly 40 military personnel was sent to help Tunisia counter illegal cross-border movement, particularly from neighboring Libya. Soldiers from the UK will provide training on operational planning, intelligence and surveillance and mobile patrolling. The training will be done by the 4th Infantry Brigade. Nearly 200 personnel at Tunisian Army locations will be trained by the British troops. This is the third training deployment delivered as part of the UK's commitment to improving security in the region, following previous installments in February and late 2015. The UK has already helped build the 1st Tunisian Brigade border security capability. Fallon also announced that the UK would extend counter-IED training for an additional year to support Tunisia against the threat of extremists.

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

Undisclosed ME customer to receive Argon CBRN simulators

(14 Oct 2016) Argon Electronics has received an order for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) simulators from an undisclosed customer in the Middle East. The order requires the company to provide a number of PlumeSIM simulators for Proengin AP4C and S4PE chemical agent detectors. Argon's PlumeSIM is a portable, wide-area CBRN / HazMat field exercise and training system that is suitable for counter-terrorism and nuclear emergency exercises.

Proengin's AP4C is a portable chemical contamination control device that is used to detect directly chemical agents in the form of vapour, aerosols and dust. The AP4C has the ability to detect phosphorus, sulphur and arsenic compounds, as well as ammonia, cyanogen chloride and cyahydric acid.

<http://bit.ly/2eHLH2R>

UK-Oman defense ties to be strengthened

(13 Oct 2016) The government of the Sultanate of Oman has ratified the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the British government in the field of defense, approving amendments made on 17 May 2016. The MoU entails strengthening bilateral defense cooperation and raising the frequency of joint military exercises in Oman. Britain plans to increase the number of military training teams that it sends to the sultanate annually from 34 to 45 teams in order to increase short-term exercises.

<http://bit.ly/2dSIsa2>

Training boost for Saudi Royal Air Force pilots

(11 Oct 2016) The Saudi Royal Air Force is going through an increased training upgrade program initiated with a £1.9bn contract signed back in May 2012 with BAE Systems. The contract covers the supply of primary/elementary, basic and advanced training aircraft and related support services and training devices under the Saudi British defense cooperation program (SBDCP).

Under the contract, BAE Systems will deliver 22 Hawk Mk165 Advanced Jet Trainers equipped with a new data link and powered by an updated version of the Rolls-Royce Adour Mk.951 engine. The new Saudi Hawks are also capable of dropping practice bombs and firing rockets and a 30mm gun pod. The Hawk trainers will be accompanied by 55 Pilatus PC-21 turboprop-powered basic trainers, an order which meant that the RSAF should eventually be the operator of the world's largest PC-21 fleet. Finally, the third element of the new Saudi training system consists of 25 all-composite Cirrus aircraft SR22 piston-engined primary/elementary trainers.

<http://bit.ly/2f9s2VV>