

Greek Defence News

THE MONTHLY DEFENCE AND SECURITY REVIEW FOR GREECE, CYPRUS AND THE
SOUTHERN EAST EUROPEAN REGION

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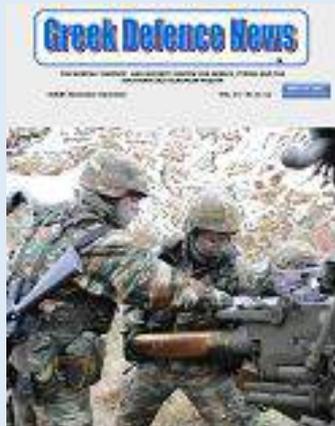


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POLITICAL OVERVIEW

➤ *Greece moves towards early elections*

Antonis Samaras, the centre-right coalition prime minister, has called a snap presidential election for December 17th, two months before Karolos Papoulias, the 85-year-old incumbent, steps down. Sensing that political instability might rekindle the euro crisis, financial markets panicked. Prices on the Athens stockmarket plunged by almost 13% the day after the presidential vote was announced; yields on Greek ten-year bonds soared above 8%.

The ruling party's candidate, typically a low-key retired politician, normally wins the required three-fifths majority after a three-round vote in parliament. This time it could be different. Samaras nominated Stavros Dimas, a 73-year-old former European Union commissioner, for the largely ceremonial post of president. Voting will begin next week, on Dec. 17, with two further rounds possible.

Under Greece's constitution, a supermajority of at least 180 lawmakers in the 300-seat chamber is needed to elect a successor to the incumbent, President Karolos Papoulias. The government has the support of just 155 lawmakers. Failure to install a candidate after three attempts would force Samaras to dissolve parliament.

Only some of the 24 lawmakers not currently caucusing with any of the country's political parties have said they may support the government's candidate for the presidency. All opposition party leaders have said they'll block any pick made by Samaras, meaning the government will have to count on a revolt from opposition lawmakers against their official party lines to secure the election of a new president. Anti-bailout group Syriza, which currently leads the government in opinion polls, welcomed the announcement, saying that Samaras's coalition didn't have the votes to secure its choice of president.

Mr Tsipras, a hero of Europe's far left, pledges to restore the minimum wage to its pre-crisis level, to provide free electricity and

food to destitute families, and to reduce unemployment by hiring more civil servants. His promises resonate with austerity-hit Greeks, though it is unclear how a Syriza government would finance such expansive policies. Nor is it evident how they can be made compatible with Greece's euro membership. Greece's next general election isn't due until 2016 but early elections are would most probably the result after the unsuccessful presidential elections. All polls recently published shows that the left-wing SYRIZA opposition party is in the lead over governing New Democracy party while the extreme-right wing Golden Dawn party will be the third political powerful party. Following are the newly launched "To Potami" party, the Communist Party of Greece while the other small parties most probably will not have any seat at the next parliament because it is anticipated that they will receive less 3% of the total votes.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

➤ *President of the Republic Karolos Papoulias' visit to the Ministry of National Defence*

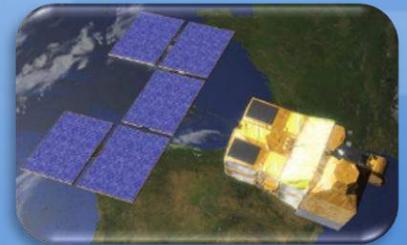


The President of the Republic Karolos Papoulias visited the Ministry of National Defence today and he was briefed on all current issues by the political and military leadership. The President of the Republic was welcomed by the Minister of National



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Defence Nikos Dendias. The briefing to Mr.Papoulias was also attended by the Alternate Minister of National Defence Fofi Gennimata, the Deputy Minister of National Defence Ioannis Lambropoulos, the General Secretary of the Ministry of National Defence Antonios Economou, the Chief of HNGS Evangelos Apostolakis, the Chief of HAFGS Evangelos Tournas and the Chief of HAGS Christos Manolas. After the briefing, The President of the Republic and the Minister of National Defence had a private meeting. In the end of the meeting, Mr. Papoulias made the following statement:

"I wish to thank the Minister for the invitation which he addressed me to visit the Ministry of National Defence. It was a very interesting visit. I wish to thank the political leadership of the Ministry as well as the military leadership of the Armed Forces. The Hellenic Armed Forces have a high level of training and readiness and this is very important for our country's security and for defending our national interests and territorial integrity. In a region affected by many risks, the Hellenic Armed Forces are a factor of security and peace. And this has been achieved thanks to all men and women of the Armed Forces, to the political leadership, to the Minister to whom I wish to be strong and continue his work".

➤ **Defence Minister Nikos Dendias' meeting with the Ambassador of the USA David D. Pearce**



The Minister of National Defence Nikos Dendias received the Ambassador of the United States of America, Mr. Davis D. Pierce, in his office at the Ministry of National Defence, today. During their meeting, Mr. Dendias discussed with the Ambassador of the U.S.A. about issues of bilateral interest, about the situation in the wider region and the important role which Greece plays in it.

➤ **Defence Minister Nikos Dendias' statement regarding the election of the Chief of HNDGS General Michail Kostarakos as Chairman of the EUMC**

The Minister of National Defence Nikos Dendias made the following statement, regarding the election of the Chief of the HNDGS General Michail Kostarakos as Chairman of the EU Military Committee. "I would like to warmly congratulate the Chief of the HNDGS General Michail Kostarakos on his election as Chairman of the EU Military Committee (EUMC), which signifies recognition for the high level of our country's Armed Forces.

The challenges General Kostarakos will face at his new post will be numerous, as far as the forming of a new strategy for the European Union's Common Security and Defence Policy are concerned. It is an issue of great importance, at the course towards a truly united Europe, for which I am sure that the Greek General will work productively and efficiently, since the very first day he will assume his duties. I would like to congratulate once more the Chief of the HNDGS on his success, which is also a success for Greece and our Armed Forces".

➤ **Visit of Turkish Deligation to HNDGS**

On Wednesday 5 November 2014, a Turkish military delegation visited HNDGS Hqs, aiming to discuss the 2015 Activities Program, in the context of the Confidence Building Measures (CBM) between the two countries.

➤ **HNGS Chief visits UK**

From 13 to 14 November 2014, HNGS Chief Vice Admiral Evangelos Apostolakis HN visited the United Kindom. During his stay HNGS Chief discussed issues of

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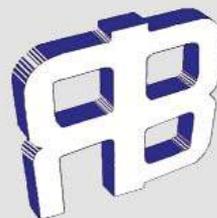
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mutual interest and bilateral cooperation with his counterpart, First Sea Lord and Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Sir George Zambellas. Following, Vice Admiral Evangelos Apostolakis HN visited the MARCOM (Maritime Command) HQ's, in Northwood where he met with MARCOM's Commander Vice Admiral Peter D. Hudson as well as with Officers of the Hellenic Navy who serve there.

➤ **HNGS Chief pays an official visit to Israel**

From 25 to 27 of November 2014, HNGS Chief Vice Admiral Evangelos Apostolakis HN, paid an official visit to Israel, following an invitation extended by the Israeli Naval Staff Chief, Vice Admiral Ram Rutberg. During his stay, HNGS Chief discussed issues of mutual interest with his counterpart, Israeli Naval Staff Chief. Following this, he visited the Israeli Naval Forces Command and Control Center at the premises of the Ashdod Naval Base, several warships at Haifa's Naval Base, as well as the Atlit Naval Base. Last but not least, Vice Admiral Evangelos Apostolakis HN visited the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, the Museum of the Holocaust "Yad Vashem", and the Greek Ambassador in Israel.

payments equal to 3 percent of GDP. While general government debt is projected to fall to 171.4 percent of GDP from 177.7 percent this year, it will remain the highest in the European Union. Overall, the government will record only a minor budget deficit of €338 million—equivalent to just 0.2% of gross domestic product—next year, in effect marking the first balanced budget Greece has produced in four decades.

As far as defence ministry's budget is concerned Defence Minister stated in the parliament that for the year 2015 the total defence budget is estimated that will be in the area of 3.250.225.000 euro. He also said that comparing with the 2010 budget, it has been reduced by 2.900.000.000 euro equal to 46%.

From the above mentioned total amount, 700 million euro will be allocated for the payment of defence procurement programs (mainly it concerns payment for defence equipment which has been previously acquired). Comparing with the new defence procurement programs expenditures for 2010, it has been reduced by 600 million euro equal to 65%.

Despite the huge cuts in the defence budget the newly appointed Defence Minister Nikos Dendias supports that the Hellenic Armed Forces are very well equipped fully operational.....

EMPAE 2014 -2019

■ **General**

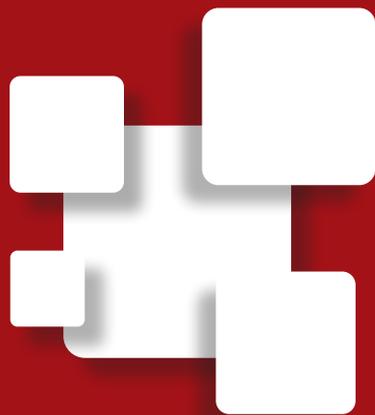
➤ **2015 Defence budget is dramatically reduced.**

Greek lawmakers recently passed the country's 2015 budget amid a deadlock with international creditors who haven't signed off on the financial plan and ongoing political uncertainty. After a five day debate in Greece's 300 seat parliament, 155 lawmakers voted in favor of the budget with 134 opposing it, while 11 lawmakers abstained.

The plan sees 2.9 percent growth in gross domestic product by 2015 picking up from a growth rate of 0.6% in 2014. The government will post a budget surplus before interest

➤ **Corruption scandal on defence procurements involves LAOS political party president George Karatzaferis**

The ongoing investigation into finances of LAOS political party president George Karatzaferis' suspected wealth and money in several off-shore companies, demonstrates that the commissions from the sale of defence systems and weapons are far more widespread than what one could imagine. This new scandal also shows us that the interest by some individuals in Greece's national issues does not necessarily stem on the fact that they are patriots, but is really about how they will fatten their wallets. So far, the investigation has revealed about 1.6 million Euros in his accounts. The money, according to press reports, appears to have been generated from a series of bribes related to various military armament contracts. If the charges hold ground then Karatzaferis could possibly face three felonies (money laundering, submitting a



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false asset declaration and illegally owning an off-shore company) - given that the case goes to trial.

■ Hellenic Army

➤ Unloading and transfer of "M" type tracked armoured vehicles & other materiel in military units

The transfer of "M" type Armoured Vehicles and other materiel from the ports of unloading to the final destination military units was completed. The Armoured Vehicles were provided gratis from the stock of the US Army and their procurement took place in the context of the valid agreements signed with the United States of America (LOA: Letter of Agreement). The procedures of a support



supply for unloading, transferring and integrating the vehicles into Units were conducted as follows:

a. On November 10, 2014, from the port of Piraeus, 113 (one hundred thirteen) track vehicles M113A2, 83 (eighty-three) track vehicles M577A2, 42 (forty-two) trailing vehicles M105 A2-A3, 2 (two) mortars 4,2mm

and 18,103 (eighteen thousand one hundred three) missiles 14,5mm were carried to Units of the Area of Responsibility of the Higher army Support Military Command.

b. On November 11, 2014, from the port of Thessaloniki in total 83 (eighty-three) track vehicles M113A2, 62 (sixty-two) track vehicles M577A2, 72 (seventy-two) M901 ITV vehicles, 46 (forty-six) M1059 vehicles and 1 (one) TOMO M106 track vehicle were carried to Units of the Area of Responsibility of the Support Division.

The aforementioned armoured vehicles are expected to fill significant gaps in the mechanized units of the Hellenic Army.

■ Hellenic Navy

➤ SUT SST-4 torpedoes

On 18 November 2014, the Hellenic Navy announced an international tender regarding the procurement of spare parts for the logistic support of SUT SST-4 torpedoes. Candidates companies should submit complete technical and financial offers by 17 December 2014.

■ Hellenic Air Force

➤ Greek F-16D from 343 Sqn crashes South of Crete

An F-16D block 52+ from 343 Squadron crashed during a training flight on December 4th, 2014 at 13.42h local time, 14 nautical miles north of the island of Gavdos. Both crew members, successful ejected.

A Hellenic Air Force's 205 Agusta Bell SAR helicopter arrived on scene at 14.34h and recovered both crew and flew them back to base Soúda Air Base. The causes of the accident is under investigated, but is currently believed to be mechanical related.

Four years ago, in a similar incident in the same sea area, two Greek Air Force pilots



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lost their lives and a third one was injured when two F-16 jets collided mid-air. This is the fifth aircraft loses from 60 F-16D block 52+ of which the last one delivered in 2006.

➤ Spare parts for the Hellenic Air Force Greek F-6

The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to Greece for F-16 sustainment and associated equipment, parts and logistical support for an estimated cost of \$188 million. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress of this possible sale on Nov 17.

The Government of Greece has requested the continuation of sustainment support for the Hellenic Air Force's F-16 aircraft, which includes the Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program; International Engine Management Program; F-16 Technical Coordination Program; and Aircraft Structural Integrity Program; aircraft hardware and software support; repair and return; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; support equipment; minor modifications; U.S. government and contractor technical and engineering support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost is \$188 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 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ally.

The Government of Greece needs this aircraft support to ensure its F-16 fleet is properly sustained and modernized to maintain interoperability with the United States and other NATO countries. The continued support and maintenance of Greece's F-16 fleet will ensure the effectiveness of its capabilities and ability to support future contributions to NATO operations. The proposed sale of this support will not alter the basic military balance in the region. The principal contractors will be Lockheed Martin in Ft Worth, Texas; and Northrup Grumman in Baltimore, Maryland. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale. Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor

representatives to Greece. There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale. This notice of a potential sale is required by law and does not mean the sale has been concluded.

➤ Follow on support for the RADAR MPDR-90

On 25 November 2014 in the premises of the General Directorate for Defence Procurements and Investments, was held the process of opening the files of qualitative selection of the tender 30/2014 regarding the follow on support for the RADAR MPDR-90. Representatives of the company AIRBUS DEFENCE & AEROSPACE attended the process. Estimated budget is in the area of 5.200.000 euro.

HELLENIC DEFENCE INDUSTRY

➤ Hellenic Aerospace Industry



On 27th to 28th November 2014, took place the European Symposium on Border Surveillance and Search and Rescue

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operations Technology, in Heraklion, Crete . For the first time researchers, industry and academia representing sixteen European R&D projects on Border Surveillance and SaR jointed, presented, exhibited and demonstrated the fruits of their activity during the last seven years. At the same time policy and decision makers had the opportunity to become aware with the capabilities and potential of the relevant EU research community. Hellenic Aerospace industry was among the exhibitors by presenting it mobile command and control system.



ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN INDUSTRIES RELATED TO THE HELLENIC ARMAMENTS PROGRAM

➤ **BOEING**

On 3 December 2014 a meeting took place in the premises of the o General Directorate for Defence Procurements and Investments between the General Director and representatives of the US company BOEING. The aim of the meeting was the presentation of the company's proposal regarding the Hellenic Air Force's F-16 aircrafts upgrade as well as its tailored involvement of the Hellenic Defence Industry.

➤ **IAI ELTA**

On 2 December 2014 a meeting took place in the premises of the Hellenic Navy General Staff between competent staff officers and representatives of the Israeli company IAI ELTA. The aim of the meeting was the presentation of the company's operational sensors.

ESDP

➤ **EDA holds first C-27J pooled maintenance and training meeting**

The European Defence Agency recently held a meeting with European C-27J Spartan operators in order to identify potential solutions to support this user community. Representatives from the

community of European C-27J users attended this meeting which was held last

month at the European Defence Agency (EDA) premises in Brussels. Bulgaria, Italy, Romania as well as Greece and Lithuania currently operate the C-27J Spartan twin-engine tactical transport aircraft. "EDA is an ideal forum to harmonise requirements of the European C-27J community", Pete Round, EDA Capability, Armament and Technology Director, stresses. "Together with Member States, we can identify ways to enhance the global C-27J capability through a variety of pooling & sharing initiatives", he adds. "It also fits perfectly in the EATF partnership signed in 2011 by 20 Member States."

Over the course of the meeting, EDA put forward three main domains in which cooperation could yield significant benefits for the European C-27J user community: training, logistics and operations. Various ideas were put on the table, such as the pooling of C-27J simulators, the sharing of spare parts or the optimisation of the different mission kits currently used by Member States for their aircraft (fire-fighting, command and control, medical evacuation, etc.) Participants agreed to meet again early in 2015 to discuss the way forward and assess the potential for joining existing EDA Pooling & Sharing mechanisms, such as the "Sharing of Spare Parts" project. Meanwhile, EDA stands ready to facilitate the establishment of relevant ad hoc projects in accordance with the "à la carte" mindset of the Agency.

European C-27J users have already been involved in other EDA initiatives, such as the EATT (European Air Transport Training) series of exercises. Earlier this year, Lithuania and Bulgaria deployed C-27Js as part of EATT14, which was held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

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This EDA initiative aims to complement existing cooperative efforts such as the European Air Transport Fleet (EATF) partnership, the Spartan User Group, which also gathers non-European C-27J users, and the European Air Transport Command (EATC) which was recently joined by Italy who offered to “pool” some of its C-27Js through this operational command.

NATO

➤ **Secretary General tells Ukrainian Prime Minister "NATO stands with you"**

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg discussed the Alliance's efforts to support Ukraine's government with Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk at NATO Headquarters on Monday (15 December 2014). The Secretary General praised Ukraine's commitment to its partnership with NATO despite challenging circumstances, and pledged ongoing political and practical support.

Bilateral meeting between NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg and the Prime Minister of Ukraine, Arseniy Yatsenyuk
“Your visit just underlines the strong partnership between NATO and Ukraine. We also very much appreciate that we are able to develop our partnership. And especially because the people of Ukraine have chosen the path of democracy and closer cooperation with Europe”, Mr. Stoltenberg said. “And we welcome that. We underline that the decision by the people of Ukraine has to be respected.”

The Secretary General said that five trust funds created by NATO to help Ukraine improve its own security are now up and running. “They aim to make Ukraine's defence forces more modern, more transparent, and more effective”, the Secretary General said. NATO's contributions are in addition to bilateral support provided separately by Allies.

Russia's continued actions to destabilise Ukraine were also discussed. “Mr. Prime Minister, you have shown a real desire to find

a peaceful solution to this crisis”, the Secretary General said. “NATO fully supports Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity”. Calling the Minsk agreements “the best way to a peaceful solution,” Mr. Stoltenberg praised Ukraine's efforts to implement the accords, and called on Russia to do the same. Mr. Stoltenberg underlined that a sovereign and stable Ukraine, firmly committed to democracy and the rule of law, is key to Euro-Atlantic security. “NATO will stand by you as you work towards that goal,” he said./ Copyrifgt : NATO

➤ **North Atlantic Council in Jordan: Mediterranean Dialogue is 'more important than ever'**

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, with the 28 Permanent Representatives of the North Atlantic Council and the Chairman of the Military Committee, Gen. Knud Bartels, marked the 20th anniversary of the Mediterranean Dialogue on Tuesday (9 December 2014) in Amman, Jordan.

They were joined by ambassadors of the seven nations (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia) participating in the partnership forum. In an unstable world, “the security of NATO countries is closely linked to the security and the stability in the Mediterranean and the Middle East,” the Secretary General said during a special seminar commemorating the anniversary. “That makes the Mediterranean Dialogue more important than ever.”

During the seminar the Secretary General set out three areas where he saw room for enhancing cooperation with Mediterranean Dialogue partners. He said that NATO could offer partners more assistance on the defence and security sectors, and called for increased ability of armed forces to work together, as well as for deeper political consultations. “Our partnership is strong; let's make it stronger,” Mr. Stoltenberg said.

The Secretary General also held talks with Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh to discuss current security challenges in the Middle East and closer cooperation. He thanked Jordan for hosting the Mediterranean Dialogue meeting. The Secretary General also said the Alliance was



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grateful for Jordan's decision to be part of the NATO Response Force as a partner nation. He said Allies were grateful for the contributions Jordan has made to regional stability and to the partnership it has with NATO. Mr. Stoltenberg said NATO is ready "to assist Jordan when it comes to, for instance, cyber defence, but also when it comes to different kinds of exercises. And we have agreed to develop that kind of cooperation even closer."

During their visit to Amman, the Secretary General and ambassadors will also have an audience with His Majesty King Abdullah II. Mr. Stoltenberg will separately meet with Jordanian Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Dr. Abdullah Ensour.

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DEFENCE AND SECURITY NEWS OF OTHER SOUTH EASTER EUROPE NATIONS

■ Turkey

➤ Turkish army managing over 600 modernization projects

The Turkish Armed Forces (TSK) are managing more than 600 modernization projects to address the challenges of the world's new security environment, Lt. General Alpaslan Erdoğan, chief of the Plans and Policy Division of the Turkish General Staff, announced late Dec. 3.

"The TSK is determined to improve their shortfalls and conduct effective defense planning that would ensure continuous transformation, in order to adapt to the new security environment," Erdoğan said at the closing session of the 13th Berlin Security Conference, also known as the Congress on European Security and Defense. He

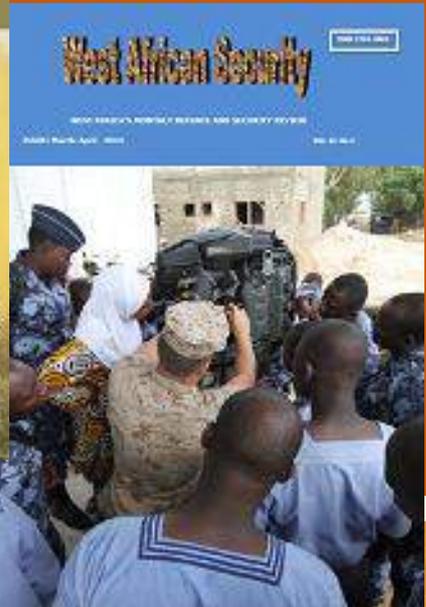
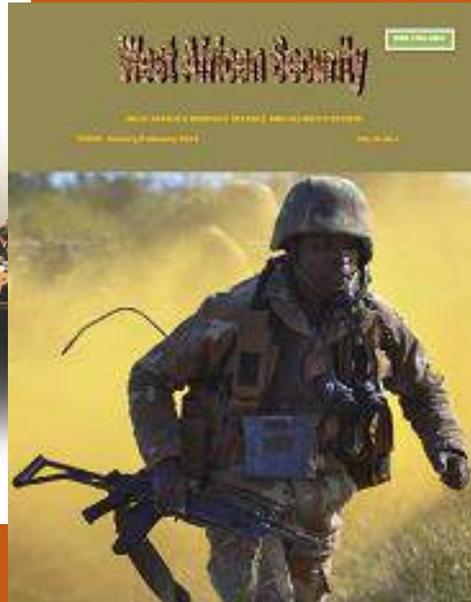


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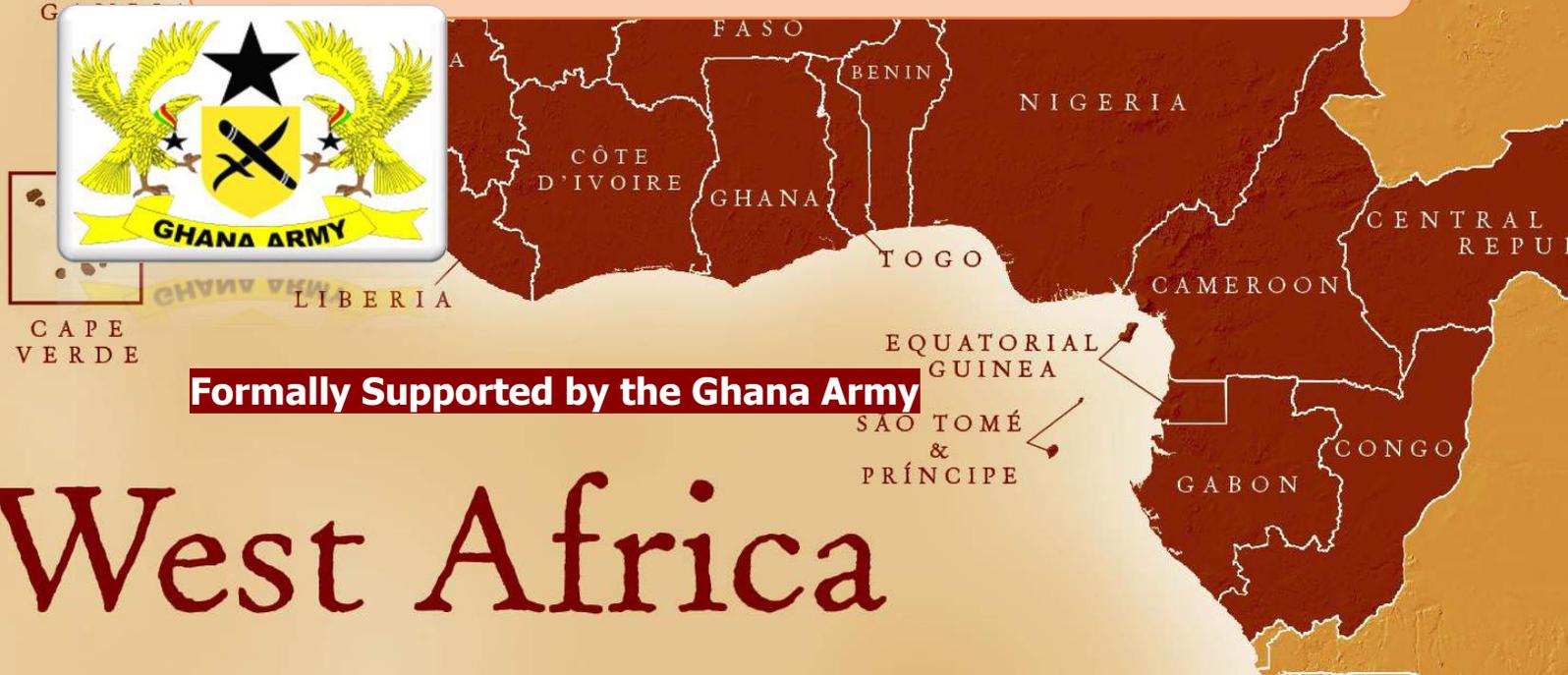
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We wish to inform you that the Ghana Army has endorsed the future 2015 C4ISR and African Homeland Conference stated for the period 26-27 AUGUST 2015 in Accra, Ghana. The Ghana Army encourages all regional and international defence forces to participate in the Conference to share ideas so as to foster greater international collaboration. Additionally, it would be highly appreciated if manufacturers and providers of C4ISR equipment, Mortar Systems and Joint Fires equipment could attend the Conference to assist resolve some of the challenges faced by the Ghana Army and African Forces in respect of C4ISR. In addition it is highly expected proposals for creating business opportunities that can contribute in the transfer of know-how for establishing local industry. The event will be organized and run by DBDC International Defence Publications & Events Ltd with the support of the Ghana Army.

Key Themes of the Conference

The goal of the conference is to present the capabilities of modern defence and security technology, as well as the existing solutions and applications in the field of modern weapon and C4ISR systems used in Peace Support and Homeland Security Operations. Experts from international industry presented existing methods - equipment used and its military applications in the areas of:

- Command and control, data links and interoperability systems
- Command Post Armored Personnel Carrier (APC)
- Border Surveillance
- Critical Infrastructure Protection
- Maritime Security
- Emergency Response and Force Tracking
- C4ISR capabilities in Offshore Patrol Vessels
- Integrated Digital Soldier System (IDSS)
- Terrestrial communications in the digital battle field
- Missiles and missiles systems
- Applications for Outdoor Perimeter Solutions
- C4ISR armoured vehicles
- UAVs
- Net-centric & Cyber Warfare
- Electronics Intelligence (ELINT)
- SATCOM and C4ISR Architecture Evolution
- Airborne Surveillance
- Helicopter ISR missions
- Helmet Mounted Systems

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underlined that in addition to the modernization projects, recent military procurements and projects will help the TSK fill its capability gaps and utilize its existing capabilities effectively.

These projects include ballistic missile defense, strategic airlift, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

Lt. General Erdoğan criticized several NATO allies for drastically cutting military spending in recent years and for failing to see the need for improving military capabilities to address new challenges. "The latest developments have proven that it was not a prudent approach of the new allies and some others to make drastic reductions in their defense expenditures," Erdoğan said.

He noted that developments in Ukraine, Syria and Iraq have shown the changed characteristics of the recent conflicts and the new nature of the security environment, and underlined that Turkey is among the countries on the front line of these new dangers. "It is easy to understand the need for strong armed forces in this critical region where Turkey is located," he said. Turkey was the partner country of the two-day Berlin Security Conference, which ended Dec. 3.

Acquisition of additional Patriot missiles

The Turkish government's possible purchase of missile defense systems from the United States, as part of an ongoing tender, has sparked a new debate on Ankara's new regional policies and its domestic arms procurement projects. On September 9, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) notified the U.S. Congress of a possible sale to Turkey of 13 Patriot fire units, various Patriot missiles including the advanced capability (PAC-3) missiles, and other related support equipment. Raytheon Corporation and Lockheed-Martin are the principal contractors and if they are awarded the tender, the project is estimated to cost \$7.8 billion. The statement described Turkey as the major U.S. ally in the region and added that by acquiring these systems Turkey will "improve its missile defense capability, strengthen its homeland defense, and deter regional threats" (www.dsc.mil, September 9).

Although this notice is a legal requirement for an ongoing tender, and did not mean a sale was concluded, the Turkish press widely covered this development and labeled it as one of the largest arms sales agreements in the country's history. The extensive coverage of the story led to an impression that Ankara had already "decided to purchase" the Patriot systems. The Turkish media maintained that Turkey wants Patriot platforms to defend itself against Iran and linked this decision to U.S. plans to build a missile shield. Others, by contrast, claimed that the U.S. decision was sparked by a concern to thwart Turkey's negotiations with Russia over the purchase of the new generation S-400 platforms. Moreover, the Turkish press also highlighted that the country would be returning as a major customer of U.S. weapons systems, after having granted several multi-billion projects to other countries. (source: Eurasia Daily Monitor)

Bulgaria

Bulgaria; 2015-2022 defense procurement plan

The "Outlook 2020: Bulgaria and NATO in European defense" outlines plans for reform and modernisation of Bulgaria's defence forces. According to it, 2% of the country's GDP must be set aside for defence yearly by 2020, of which between 10 and 15% should be spent for purchasing of new armaments. The report indicates the need of three new frigates, air defence systems, torpedoes, 3D radar, a drone helicopter and combat information system. The army would acquire between 100 and 120 combat vehicles.

On 18th August 2014 it was reported that Bulgaria's main political parties had agreed to increase the share of the country's defence budget which is spent on equipment by up to 20 percent. Bulgaria has come under considerable pressure in recent years to enhance and modernise its materiel. In particular, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation is encouraging Bulgaria to invest in advanced equipment which can correspondingly reduce the manpower size of the country's armed forces. .



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Preparing first responders for CBRN incidents



Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) weapons are among the most dangerous weapons in the world. Several terrorist groups have actively sought weapons of mass destruction as they can cause a higher mortality than conventional weapons. It is important to ensure that first responders are prepared for such eventualities and that decision makers get timely scientific and operational CBRN information to protect populations. In order to effectively manage the consequences of CBRN incidents, a training course for first responders took place at the Joint CBRN Defence Centre of Excellence in Vyškov, Czech Republic on 12 November 2014. Thirty military and civilian participants from consequence-management structures in Azerbaijan, Moldova, Ukraine and NATO countries attended the course entitled "Consequence Management after CBRN Incident". The main aim of the course was to ensure that first responders such as police officers, fire fighters and paramedics have a common knowledge base and a basic level of preparedness when responding to CBRN incidents. Blending theory with practice,

the course focused on helping countries improve their civil emergency plans and looking at how NATO, the European Union and other international organisations organise their consequence-management systems. The 2011 Fukushima nuclear power plant incident, for instance, was closely examined, and experts who helped deal with the incident also participated in the course.

"A lot of people will be affected and a lot of subjects will be dealing with the recovery," said Captain Gorazd Stergar, CBRN defence course instructor at the JCBRN Defence COE. "And for this we need to be ready. This course provided opportunities on how and where to find possible solutions; each CBRN incident is unique," he added.

Consequence management is a national responsibility and each country is responsible for handling emergencies that occur within its own territory. However, responding to CBRN incidents involves many organisations and agencies as no single civil or military agency possesses the capacity and expertise to handle the many complex issues alone that may arise in response to CBRN incidents.

The co-director of this project is Colonel Mariana Grama, Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Moldova, whose country is



facing security issues in this area. "There are many vulnerable CBRN facilities that are lacking physical protection and presenting a high risk for our national security, public health and environment," said Colonel Grama. "There is also an increase of CBRN agents imported in the country or transited through our territory and we are dealing with instability in bordering countries, in particular with Ukraine," she continued.

In the future, Colonel Grama hopes that she will be able to integrate what has been learnt into their national crisis-management planning. "It will be easier and more efficient to improve interoperability between response teams at national and international levels and to review and enhance operational CBRN plans and actions in the country with the integration of international standards and procedures, especially EU and NATO ones," explained Colonel Grama.

With regard to greater coordination, Ukrainian Security Service officer Andrii Vasylyshyn, who attended the course, stated: "Today's ongoing globalisation processes are changing the nature of warfare together with the increasing threat from global, networked, decentralised and outsourced terrorist groups who are prepared to use CBRN materials no longer as a means to achieve political objectives but as an end in itself." He added, "there is a growing need to protect society from potential future scenarios in which CBRN materials might be deployed by unconventional means of delivery. This will require cooperation between governments, counter-terrorism officials and counter-proliferation agencies."

In addition to this training course, the JCBRN Defence Centre also inaugurated on 12 November NATO's first CBRN reachback capability. "It provides timely scientific and operational CBRN expertise, assessments and advice to NATO commanders and their staff across the full spectrum of operations," said Jamie Shea, NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General

for Emerging Security Challenges. The operations room located at the JCBRN Defence Centre will allow NATO commanders to protect deployed forces and provide experts with CBRN advice to help protect the civilian populations of member countries. In short, it will enhance NATO's CBRN preparedness and first response capability. "A comprehensive information-gathering system and informed assessment are essential aspects of intelligence and CBRN defence," said Colonel Jiri Gajdos, JCBRN Defence COE Director. This is crucial for a reliable assessment of activities, as experienced during the CBRN misuse by terrorists during the CBRN misuse by terrorists groups in Northern Africa and the Middle East, or the consequences of industrial incidents such as those in Chernobyl or Fukushima.

The operations room is already able to respond to national and NATO requests for information on a 24/7 basis and can easily shift to operations mode, should a crisis emerge. Its set-up is inclusive of both military and civilian consequence-management authorities. The requirement for CBRN reachback is one of the lessons learned from NATO operations and has been identified as a critical capability for future operations in a potential CBRN environment. The course is funded under the NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme and the operations room is sponsored by NATO's Defence against Terrorism Programme of Work (DAT PoW), which aims to mitigate critical capability shortfalls of the Alliance (source: NATO)



£270 MILLION CONTRACT AWARDED TO UPGRADE ROYAL NAVY TORPEDOES

Following the completion of the design phase, existing torpedoes will be upgraded by BAE Systems at its Broad Oak facility in Portsmouth to the new design with initial deliveries in 2020 continuing until 2024. The contract secures 100 skilled engineering jobs for BAE Systems' Maritime Services business at Broad Oak, and sustains hundreds more across the supply chain. Forty new skilled engineering personnel will be recruited to work on the programme within BAE Systems. The upgrade, known as Spearfish Mod 1 extends the life of the torpedo, improves safety through the introduction of an Insensitive Munitions warhead and by utilising a single fuel system and provides more capable data links between the weapon system and the launching vessel. This results in capability improvements for the Royal Navy as well as significant reduction in through-life operating costs. The anti-submarine and anti-surface Spearfish torpedoes are currently deployed the BAE Systems designed and built Trafalgar and Vanguard submarines, as well as the Astute Class submarines. Spearfish can be used in defensive and offensive situations and its advanced design delivers maximum warhead effectiveness at high speed with outstanding manoeuvrability, low radiated noise, advanced homing and sophisticated tactical intelligence. The torpedo can operate autonomously from the time of

launch and is capable of variable speeds across the entire performance envelope. Its high power density bespoke engine allows it to attain exceptional sprint speed in the terminal stage of an attack. The result is an underwater weapon that provides decisive advantage against the full range of submarine and surface threats in all operational environments. Extensive in-water testing will demonstrate consistently high performance and outstanding reliability. Defence Secretary, Michael Fallon, said: "This contract award is good news for the Royal Navy, the UK and the city of Portsmouth where around 100 engineering jobs will be created or sustained. He continued "Portsmouth continues to play a significant part in defence as illustrated by this contract award and has a bright future ahead of it thanks to recent investment such as the £600M contract to run the naval base, sustaining thousands of jobs, and the upcoming £100M of infrastructure work to prepare the city for the arrival of the Queen Elizabeth Class Carriers." John Hudson, Managing Director for BAE Systems' UK Maritime Sector, said: "Upgrading the Spearfish Heavyweight Torpedo will provide sophisticated advances for the Royal Navy with increased operational advantage in the underwater domain." He continued: "As well as sustaining and creating jobs in the Solent region, the contract allows the opportunity to work on

one of the most exciting development programmes in the country, underpinning BAE Systems' position at the forefront of underwater systems development over the last 40 years."

SPEARFISH HEAVYWEIGHT TORPEDO

FASTER UNDERWATER THAN A CHEETAH ON LAND

Weighing in at just under 2 tonnes

SPEED: 70 mph

LENGTH: 5 metres

MATERIALS: aluminium and titanium - the same materials are used in fighter aircraft

UPGRADE: from 2020 the new Mod-1 version will include a single fuel system, insensitive munition warhead and improved data links with the submarine

ENGINEERING: 100 engineers will work on the project at Portsmouth. 40 engineers will be recruited

IN OPERATION ON ROYAL NAVY ASTUTE, TRAFALGAR AND VANGUARD SUBMARINES

BAE SYSTEMS
INSPIRED WORK

BAE SYSTEMS AND BRAZILIAN ARMY COMPLETE 100TH M113 UPGRADE

BAE Systems and the Brazilian Army completed the upgrade of the service's 100th M113 to the M113A2 Mk1 (M113BR) configuration, marking a significant milestone for the program. This modernization extends the service of the Army's fleet and increases its defense capabilities. "This is an important milestone for BAE Systems and our long-standing partner, the Brazilian Army," said Adam Zarfoss, director of Artillery and Recovery Vehicles at BAE Systems. "The delivery of the 100th upgraded vehicle is a direct result of our close working relationship with the Army, developed through a strong technology sharing program." BAE Systems received a contract to work with the Brazilian Army to convert 150 M113B vehicles to the M113A2 Mk1 configuration in December 2011. The team — utilizing resources from local industry and Parque Maintenance 5 — reuses existing vehicle hulls, hatches, and ramps to replace or upgrade components such as engines, transmissions, and cooling systems. As part of the contract, the company is also transferring technology into the new

vehicles and is working with the Brazilian Army to train personnel on the upgrade and maintenance of the vehicles.

The largest family of armored tracked vehicles in the world, the M113 family of vehicles includes more than 80,000 vehicles in the militaries of at least 44 countries worldwide. The M113, one of the most versatile of military tracked vehicles, can transport 12 troops plus a driver and is capable of amphibious operation, extended cross-country travel over rough terrain, and high-speed operation on improved roads and highways. The ongoing improvements and upgrades to the system help maintain the M113's relevance for the next three to four decades. BAE Systems designs, develops, manufactures, and provides full life-cycle support for artillery, combat, and amphibious vehicles for the U.S. military and militaries around the world. In addition to the M113 upgrade program, the company is partnering with and transferring technology to Brazilian industry on other programs, including the 40mm naval gun and flight controls for the KC 390 air tanker.



Airbus Helicopters to Continue Providing Full Service Support for Bundeswehr's EC135 Training Helicopters

Airbus Helicopters has won the support contract to maintain, overhaul and ensure the availability of the German Army Aviation School's fleet of EC135 training helicopters. This extends the existing contract, signed in 2005, by a further seven years.

"At the core of the Airbus Helicopters full service contract is ensuring that on virtually every working day, eleven EC135 aircraft are available on the airfield for training purposes. This puts the fleet's operational availability at over 95 percent," explained Ralf Barnscheidt, Head of the Military Support Center in Germany. "A team of technicians that is constantly on-site at the Bückeburg location as well as our specialist maintenance center in Kassel-Calden provide technical and logistical support, carry out throughlife maintenance and even large-scale repair work, and are responsible for ensuring the mission readiness of the helicopters." Barnscheidt added, "We're delighted that the Bundeswehr has once again chosen to put its faith in us, building on what is now 15

years of fruitful collaboration on the EC135."

Colonel Uwe Klein, commander of the German Army Aviation School and General in the German Army Aviation Corps, stated that "Airbus Helicopters submitted the most cost-effective bid for the service contract – one that is perfectly tailored to the requirements of the German Army Aviation School – and we look forward to continuing our collaboration. The on-site teams do tremendous work: We can always count on the helicopters we need being available for each and every training session – even for night flights – so that our people have to perform just the pre-flight check."

The German Army Aviation School in Bückeburg trains some 70 future Bundeswehr pilots using a total of 14 EC135 aircraft, which log about 6,000 flight hours a year. Over the course of twelve months, student pilots learn how to fly a helicopter under visual flight rules and also qualify in IFR and sensor flight in low-altitude night flight.



Airbus Helicopters delivers the first Tiger HAD Block 2 attack helicopters to the French Army



The French Army's Tiger combat helicopter fleet expanded yesterday with Airbus Helicopters' delivery of the first two attack helicopters in the HAD Block 2 version, following its qualification by the French General Directorate for Armament on

November 21. These two Tigers will join those already in service for the military, which have proven their capabilities during operational deployments in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Somalia, Libya and Mali.

The "Block 2" version brings additional enhancements that now offer the full capacity of the HAD version, including improved targeting accuracy for rockets, the addition of combat external fuel tanks that provide longer flight times while still enabling the full complement of armament to be used, an extension of the flight domain in which Spike and Hellfire anti-tank missiles can be fired, and the integration of digital communications for operations in today's digital battlefield. The HAD block 2 helicopters are also "navalized," allowing their use from ships and in sea environments.

To date, Airbus Helicopters has delivered more than 110 Tiger helicopters to France, Germany, Spain and Australia – a total which includes six HAD Block 1 attack helicopters for the French Army, along with 40 in the HAP support and escort configuration.

The newly-delivered HAD Block 2 aircraft will be operated by GAMSTAT (the aeromobility group belonging to the technical "section" of the French Army), then assigned to the 1st Army Combat Helicopter Regiment, located at the Phalsbourg-Bourscheid Air Base in France's Moselle region. This unit already operates HAD Block 1 helicopters, which have been deployed to the Central African Republic.

DCNS TESTS NEW ANTI-TERRORISM AND ANTI-PIRACY TOOLS

DCNS has just successfully tested, in the Toulon harbor, a real-time demonstrator for an asymmetric response to terrorist and piracy attacks. This DCNS system is the fruit of several years of research and development and integrates cutting-edge technologies: ultra-high-definition and high-sensitivity video, augmented reality, powerful algorithms for the detection of threatening behavior... The goal is to accelerate decision taking and prevent collateral damage in close-quarter defense situations.

On 10 December 2014, the DCNS teams experimented with the demonstrator of a new maritime anti-terrorism and anti-piracy combat system. The French Navy provided both technical and operational support for this full-scale test during which maritime terrorist or piracy attacks were simulated. The DCNS combat system allowed the rapid deployment of an effective defense in littoral waters, where most anti-piracy missions take place. Comprising a network of ultra-high-definition, 360-degree cameras, the tool developed by DCNS ensures surveillance over a distance of several kilometers around the vessel.

Information acquired by the cameras is superimposed on top of augmented reality images to facilitate the analysis of the different moving objects in proximity (pleasure boats, fishermen... or pirates). In the event of suspicious movements, an operator can use a very powerful zoom lens to confirm whether or not the threat is real. A response can then be implemented, ranging from simply issuing a sound or light warning signal to a warning shot or final protective fire. Thanks

to a camera mounted on the weapon, the vessel Commander can, in this case, first check that there is no risk of collateral damage. A 360-degree, real-time visualization of the situation is permanently displayed on a screen on the vessel's bridge, visible to the vessel Commander and all close-quarter defense operators. Each person is thus able to share the same information at the same time, in a collaborative approach, that can also be found on the bridge of the DCNS concept ship presented by the Group at the Euronaval 2014 trade-fair. Compatible with a large number of ships, this system can operate autonomously or can be integrated within a Combat Management System (CMS) to benefit from other information provided by the vessel's other sensors, in particular those on airborne drones.

The development of this demonstrator represents the fruit of several years of research at DCNS. To build this system, DCNS has teamed up with innovative SMEs with complementary expertise. With this additional capacity, DCNS provides Navies with a concrete response to the increasing risk of terrorist attacks (suicide boats, ambushes...) or piracy.



Second C-130J Super Hercules Delivered To Republic Of Tunisia



The Republic of Tunisia received its second C-130J Super Hercules during a ceremony today at the Lockheed Martin [NYSE: LMT] facility here Tunisia received its first C-130J in April 2013, marking the first delivery of a J-model to an African nation. Lockheed Martin signed a contract in 2010 with Tunisia to deliver two C-130Js, as well as to provide training and an initial three years of logistics support.

"Tunisia's Super Hercules fleet is both a national and a regional asset, able to support more missions than any other aircraft in operation today," said George Shultz, vice president and general manager, C-130 Programs, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics. "We are proud to have Tunisia as a member of the global C-130J family. As legacy operators, Tunisian Air Force crews have long showcased why the C-130 is the world's most versatile aircraft and continue to do so with its C-130J fleet."

Tunisia's new C-130Js are the longer fuselage or "stretched" variant of the

aircraft. Tunisia's new C-130Js will support operations across the mission spectrum, including relief efforts around the world, firefighting and traditional airlift sorties.

Sixteen countries have chosen the C-130J Super Hercules to meet their air mobility needs. The C-130J is the standard by which all other airlifters are measured in terms of availability, flexibility and reliability. With more than 1.2 million flight hours to date, the C-130J is available in nine variants and offers operators 17 different mission configurations.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, Lockheed Martin is a global security and aerospace company that employs approximately 113,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services. The Corporation's net sales for 2013 were \$45.4 billion.

GPS III and OCX Successfully Demonstrate Key Satellite Command and Control Capabilities

Lockheed Martin and Raytheon Company successfully completed the fourth of five planned launch and early orbit exercises to demonstrate new automation capabilities, information assurance and launch readiness of the world's most powerful and accurate Global Positioning System (GPS), the U.S. Air Force's next generation GPS III satellite and Operational Control System (OCX).

Successful completion of Exercise 4 on Oct. 3 represents a key milestone demonstrating the end-to-end capability to automatically transfer data between Raytheon's OCX and Lockheed Martin's GPS III satellite. One additional readiness exercise, five launch rehearsals and a mission dress rehearsal are planned prior to launch of the first GPS III satellite with OCX. The exercise used the latest baseline of Raytheon's OCX Launch Checkout System (LCS) software featuring integrated information assurance functionality for the first time, and the latest version of Lockheed Martin's GPS III satellite simulator. Exercise 4 successfully demonstrated mission planning and scheduling capabilities with the simulated Air Force Satellite Control Network (AFSCN) for the first time, including a replan scenario that would occur in the event of a launch slip.

The system also automatically generated antenna pointing angles for the simulated AFSCN, which until now have been manually generated. Exercise 4 expands on three previous exercises, introducing maneuver planning and reconstruction capabilities, as well as advanced planning and scheduling with AFSCN assets. The automation of these capabilities will allow GPS operators to spend their time optimizing system performance rather than focusing on routine operations.

"As part of establishing the LCS Block 0 baseline, the completion of Exercise 4 demonstrates the capability of OCX to

successfully support a GPS-III satellite launch in an information assurance hardened environment," stated Matthew Gilligan, Raytheon vice president and GPS OCX program manager. "Exercise 4 began the instantiation of vital OCX automation capabilities that give operators their time back in order to focus on mission critical activities, one of the important elements of a modernized GPS."

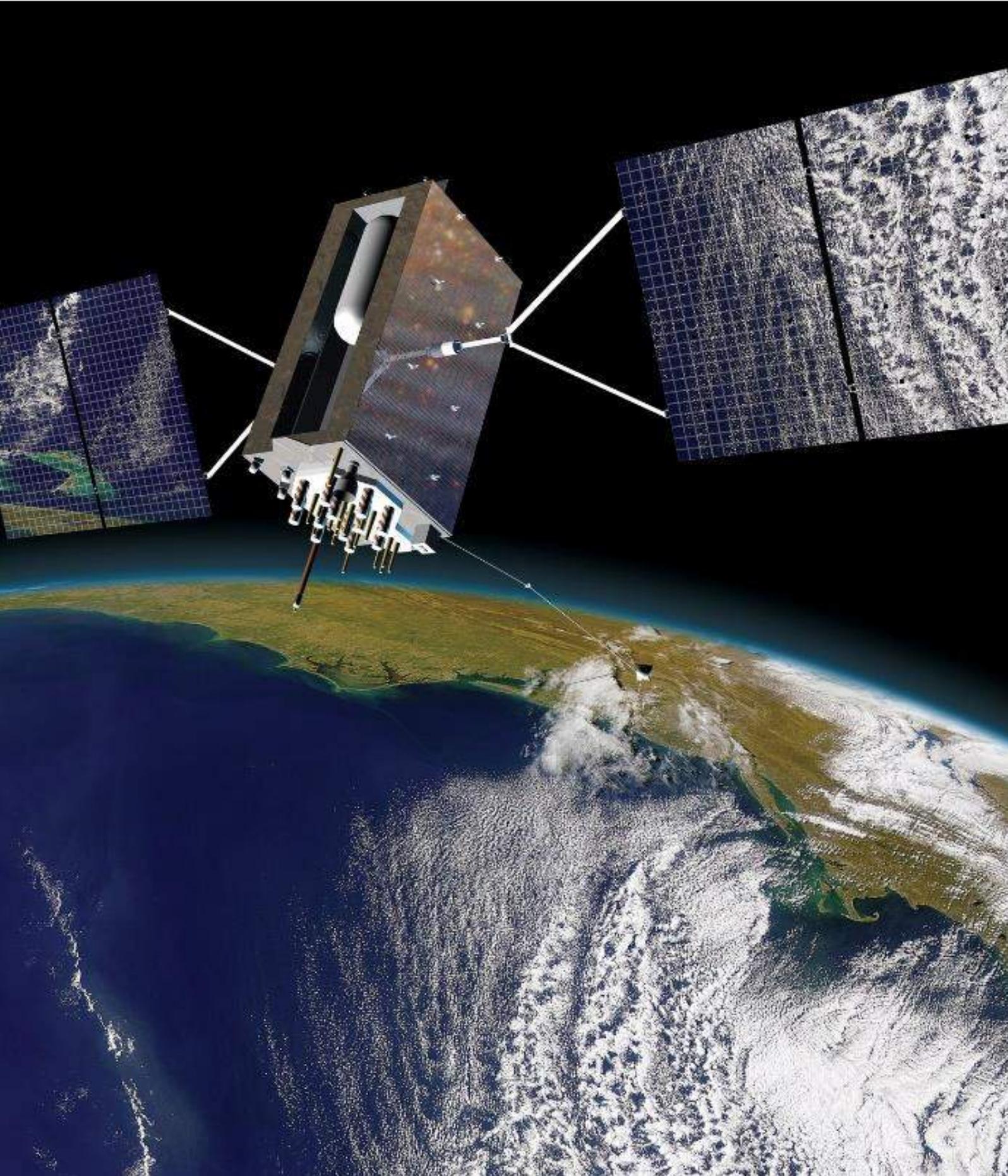
"Launch Exercise 4 demonstrated the team's ability to complete nearly 100 percent of the GPS III space vehicle 1 launch and early orbit mission sequence," said Mark Stewart, vice president for Lockheed Martin's Navigation Systems mission area. "The findings the team made during this robust launch exercise will help mature the processes, procedures and tools necessary to enter our rehearsal phase and, ultimately, the launch and checkout mission."

GPS III satellites will deliver three times better accuracy, provide up to eight times improved anti-jamming capabilities, and include enhancements that extend spacecraft life to 15 years, 25 percent longer than the newest Block IIF satellites. GPS III will be the first generation of GPS satellite with a new L1C civil signal designed to make it interoperable with other international global navigation satellite systems. The first GPS III satellite is currently undergoing integration and testing, with final space vehicle delivery planned for late 2015.

OCX is being developed in two blocks using a commercial best practice iterative software development process, with seven iterations in Block 1 and one iteration in Block 2. Exercise 4 was conducted using the recently completed Iteration 1.5 software, representing an early delivery of the final software baseline. Exercise 5, scheduled for 2015, will include critical information assurance features needed to support launch of the first GPS III satellite.

The GPS III team is led by the Global Positioning Systems Directorate at the U.S. Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center. Air Force Space Command's 2nd Space Operations Squadron (2SOPS), based at Schriever Air Force Base,

Colorado, manages and operates the GPS constellation for both civil and military users.



MBDA's Sea Ceptor selected for Brazilian Navy's next generation corvette programme



The Brazilian Navy has selected MBDA's Sea Ceptor to provide the local area air defence for its next generation *Tamandaré* class corvettes. After the UK's Royal Navy (RN) and the Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN), Brazil's is now the third navy to have chosen Sea Ceptor. With discussions also well advanced with other leading navies around the world, Sea Ceptor is rapidly establishing a significant user community.

A production contract was awarded by the UK MoD in September 2013 for Sea Ceptor to provide the next generation Air Defence capability and so replace the Seawolf system on the Royal Navy's Type 23 frigates from 2016 onwards. Sea Ceptor will subsequently be transferred to the Royal Navy's new ships as they start entering service, when the Type 23s are replaced by the future Type 26s.

This long term commitment to Sea Ceptor by the Royal Navy is a solid assurance to each new member of the weapon's user

community of the longevity of this new system over the years to come.

Sea Ceptor provides all-weather, night and day, 360° local area air defence coverage against multiple simultaneous targets including sea-skimming anti-ship missiles, helicopters and fast combat jets. In facing saturating attacks posed by a range of diverse threats, Sea Ceptor has a clear advantage thanks to its advanced technology, active radar seeker. The weapon is also capable of engaging surface targets.

A major feature lies in Sea Ceptor's soft launch technology which does away with the need for a launcher efflux management system, thereby reducing overall mass and onboard footprint characteristics. This allows greater flexibility for the customer in choosing the weapon's installation position, a particularly important feature for smaller vessels. It also allows for easy installation as a retrofit on older ships.

SCORPION MULTI-ROLE ARMoured VEHICLE CONTRACT AWARDED TO NEXTER, RTD AND THALES



On the occasion of its visit in the 27th Mountain Infantry Brigade Artillery of Varcès (Isère), Jean-Yves LE DRIAN, Minister of Defence, handed the EBMR (Armoured Multi-roles vehicles) market to the CEOs of the GME (temporary consortium) formed by the French companies Nexter Systems, Renault Trucks Defense and Thales. Prepared by the Armement Procurement Agency (DGA), this market plans the development, the manufacturing and the support of the EBMR of the SCORPION program. Under the EBMR contract, the Multi-Role Armoured Vehicle GRIFFON and Reconnaissance and Combat Armoured Vehicle JAGUAR will replace respectively on the one hand the VAB, and on the other hand, the AMX10RC, the ERC Sagaie and the VAB Hot, produced in the 70s and 80s and used extensively by the French Army in all theaters of operation for thirty years. The contract covers all phases of an armament program, from development to unit logistical support through the qualification and production of systems. The GME is committed to the integral performance of the equipment in the long term as well as the operational availability of vehicles in service. The state of the art innovation and know-how developed by the three companies in the GME in the domains of mobility, protection, weapons and

digitization will be integrated in the first SCORPION-approved systems. The effect on the ground for future joint tactical groups (GTIA) equipped with SCORPION EBMR systems will be greatly increased with regard to the previous generation. This program has a structuring effect for Nexter, RTD and Thales as well as for the French industrial sector that will be nourished by the subcontracting orders from the GME. It will create a thousand jobs in its development phase and 1,700 jobs in its production phase. Almost 2,000 vehicles, and all associated logistical support equipment, will be delivered to forces from 2018.

Nexter applies its expertise in land defence systems to meet the needs of the French army and other forces internationally. The scope of its business includes the supply of weapons systems and munitions for Army, Air Force, Navy and law enforcement applications. In 2013 Nexter reported revenue of Euros 787 million, of which 18% were allocated to Research & Development. The range of products offered by Nexter includes: Artillery systems CAESAR®, TRAJAN and, 105LG, Leclerc main battle tank, VBCI Infantry combat vehicle, ARAVIS® highly protected armoured vehicle, TITUS®, Nexter new armoured 6x6, BONUS smart ammunition, all backed up by customer service, support and recycling.

THALESRAYTHEONSYSTEMS' GROUND MASTER RADARS WILL BOOST FRANCE'S AIRSPACE SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITY

ThalesRaytheonSystems has been awarded a contract by the DGA, the French defense procurement agency, to supply the French armed forces with 12 fixed Ground Master 400 radars and 4 mobile tactical Ground Master 200 radars. In addition to delivery and through-life support of the radars, the contract awarded on 8 December includes installation and civil engineering work for the 12 Ground Master 400 radars. This contract is part of the SCCOA* air command and control program for which ThalesRaytheonSystems is the main supplier. France has already acquired Ground Master radars for its military bases in Kourou, Nice and Lyon. The radar in Kourou, the first of its kind to enter operational service in France, was inaugurated on 27 November. Like the other Ground Master radars already integrated within SCCOA, the new radars will be coupled with the NATO ACCS**. They will thus provide airspace monitoring, a high-priority mission under the country's Permanent Security Posture (PSP), and ground-based air defense detection. Jérôme Bendell, Chief Executive Officer of ThalesRaytheonSystems France, said: "ThalesRaytheonSystems is proud to be contributing with its Ground Master radars to the modernization of France's air surveillance capability, which is already underway with the delivery of these latest-generation radars for the bases in Kourou, Nice and Lyon." The Ground Master 400 and Ground Master 200 belong to the family of 3D air defense radars built by Thales. The Ground Master range of fully digital, multi-role air defense radars is dedicated to airspace surveillance and the protection of key assets and expeditionary forces. These systems are specifically designed to deliver high detection performance, high operational availability, excellent mobility and simplified maintenance. They are able to detect a vast array of modern threats

such as UAVs from very low to very high altitude. More than 80 Ground Master radars have been sold around the world. The SCCOA program is designed to provide airspace surveillance and control and air operations command capability for French forces. It is an incremental program designed to evolve and increase this capability to assure air surveillance, space situational awareness, control of military and government flights, and air operations command and control. The Air Command and Control System (ACCS), for which ThalesRaytheonSystems is prime contractor, is designed to adapt to evolving NATO operations, with continued advancements to AirC2 or additional ballistic missile defense capabilities. ACCS will provide the solid command and control foundation needed for future Alliance missions. ACCS is a smart defense system in that it provides all NATO nations with a common basis for training, standard procedures and centralized maintenance, significantly reducing support costs and increasing staffing flexibility.





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