



Defense Security Cooperation Agency
NEWS RELEASE

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Media/Public Contact: (703) 601-3670

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Bahrain – Bell 412 Air Search and Recovery Helicopters

WASHINGTON, August 3, 2007 - The Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale to Bahrain of Bell 412 Air Search and Recovery Helicopters as well as associated equipment and services. The total value, if all options are exercised, could be as high as \$160 million.

The Government of Bahrain has requested a possible sale of six Bell 412 Air Search and Recovery Helicopters configured with PT6T-9 engines and electronic engine control, spare and repair parts, publications and technical data, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government (USG) support, and contractor representatives' engineering and technical support services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$160 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 friendly country that has been and continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

Bahrain plans to increase its air mobility capabilities and continue its force modernization program. These defense enhancements promote continued interoperability with U.S. forces, assist in the cooperative defense of neighboring states, and increase Bahrain's capability as a partner in the Global War on Terror.

The helicopters will be used for various military operations to include the protection of sovereign borders as well as the protection and defense of U.S. and coalition strategic facilities. The proposed sale of Bell helicopters will greatly enhance Bahrain's military functionality by increasing deterrence capabilities.

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

The principal contractors will be: Bell Textron of Fort Worth, Texas and Bell Textron of Canada. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of one Contractor Field Service representative to Bahrain for one year to assist in the delivery and deployment of the helicopters.

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; it does not mean that the sale has been concluded.