



Defense Security Cooperation Agency
NEWS RELEASE

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Iraq – M16A4 Rifles, M4 Carbines and M203 Grenade Launchers

WASHINGTON, December 10, 2008 – On Dec. 9, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale to Iraq of (80,000) M16A4 5.56MM Rifles, (25,000) M4 5.56MM Carbines, (2,550) M203 40MM Grenade Launchers as well as associated equipment and services. The total value, if all options are exercised, could be as high as \$148 million.

The Government of Iraq has requested a possible sale of (80,000) M16A4 5.56MM Rifles, (25,000) M4 5.56MM Carbines, (2,550) M203 40MM Grenade Launchers, spare and repair parts, support equipment, publications and technical data, personnel training and training equipment, contractor engineering and technical support services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$148 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. This proposed sale directly supports the Iraq government and serves the interests of the Iraqi people and the U.S.

The proposed sale of the small arms and support will enable the Iraq Army to expand its force structure. This expansion will enable Iraq to equip new forces to assume the missions currently accomplished by U.S. and coalition forces and to sustain themselves in their efforts to bring stability to Iraq and to prevent overflow of unrest into neighboring countries.

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

The principal contractors are Colt Manufacturing Company in Hartford, Connecticut and Fabrique Nationale Manufacturing Group Herstal, S. A. in Herstal, Belgium. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

U.S. Government and Contractor technical assistance will be required but cannot be fully defined at this time. The use of existing, deployed U.S. military personnel will be maximized.

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.