

Defense Security Cooperation Agency NEWS RELEASE

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Egypt – 155mm Howitzer Upgrade

On 6 November, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale to Egypt of the overhaul and refurbishment of M109A2/A3 155mm howitzers as well as for associated support equipment and services.

The Government of Egypt has requested a possible overhaul/refurbishment of 201 M109A2/A3 155mm self-propelled howitzers, communication equipment, spare and repair parts, publications and technical data, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistics personnel services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$77 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 which has been and continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

Egypt will use these howitzers to replace aging Soviet towed artillery and to complement the modernization of the M1A1/M60A3 divisions. The refurbishing of the equipment is necessary because they are not operational. Egypt will have no difficulty absorbing these howitzers into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractor will be United Defense, LP of York, Pennsylvania. There are no offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of five U.S. Government and contractor representatives for one-week intervals five trips for program management and technical review.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.