



This document is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on 08/26/2020 and available online at [federalregister.gov/d/2020-18791](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2020-18791), and on [govinfo.gov](https://www.govinfo.gov)

Billing Code: 5001-06

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal No. 20-41]

Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Arms sales notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of an arms sales notification.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karma Job at karma.d.job.civ@mail.mil or (703) 697-8976.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This 36(b)(1) arms sales notification is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104-164 dated July 21, 1996. The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittal 20-41 with attached Policy Justification and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: August 17, 2020.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,

Department of Defense.



DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY
201 12TH STREET SOUTH, SUITE 101
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-5408

July 9, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-209, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker:

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 20-41 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Belgium for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$33.3 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Hooper", is written over the typed name and title.

Charles W. Hooper
Lieutenant General, USA
Director

Enclosures:

1. Transmittal
2. Policy Justification
3. Sensitivity of Technology

Transmittal No. 20-41

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer
Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1)
of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: The Government of Belgium

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment*	\$25.0 million
Other	<u>\$ 8.3 million</u>
TOTAL	\$33.3 million

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twenty-nine (29) All Up Round MK 54 Lightweight Torpedo Mod 0

Non-MDE:

Also included are two (2) Fleet Exercise Section conversion kits, torpedo support equipment, training and publications, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (BE-P-LBH)

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: **July 9, 2020**

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Belgium –MK 54 Lightweight Torpedoes (LWT)

The Government of Belgium requests to buy twenty-nine (29) All Up Round MK 54 LWT Mod 0. Also included are two (2) Fleet Exercise Section conversion kits, torpedo support equipment, training and publications, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$33.3 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The Belgian Navy is phasing out its inventory of MK 46 torpedoes. The MK 54 will give them the ability to engage submarines from its fleet of NH-90 helicopters and the new generation of Multi-Mission Frigates. Belgium will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Integrated Defense System, Portsmouth, Rhode Island. 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 Belgium; however, U.S. Government Engineering and Technical Services may be required on an interim basis for installations and integration.

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

Transmittal No. 20-41

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer
Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1)
of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex
Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The MK 54 Torpedo is a conventional torpedo that can be launched from surface ships, helicopters, and fixed wing aircraft. The MK 54 is an upgrade to the MK 46 Torpedo, which is currently in-service in Belgium. The MK 54 replaces MK 46's sonar and guidance and control systems with modern technology. The new guidance and control system uses a mixture of

commercial-off-the-shelf and custom-built electronics. The warhead, fuel tank and propulsion system from the MK 46 torpedo are re-used in the MK 54 configuration with minor modifications. There is no sensitive technology in the MK 54 or its support and test equipment. Belgium has not requested nor will it be provided with the source code for the MK 54 operational software. The highest classification of items to be transferred by this possible sale is SECRET.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

3. A determination has been made that the Government of Belgium can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

4. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Belgium.

[FR Doc. 2020-18791 Filed: 8/25/2020 8:45 am; Publication Date: 8/26/2020]