



Defense Security Cooperation Agency  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Egypt –Reconnaissance Systems**

On 25 July 2002, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale to Egypt of podded reconnaissance systems as well as associated equipment and services. The total value, if all options are exercised, could be as high as \$70 million.

The Government of Egypt has requested a possible sale of six Theater Airborne Reconnaissance System (TARS) Pods, aircraft integration, ground station equipment, spare and repair parts, personnel training and equipment, publications, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistics personnel services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$70 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.

The TARS will provide Egypt with under-the-weather, medium-to-high threat, short range, and daytime only imagery collection capability. It is an entry level, low technology system, which will provide Egypt important border-area image collection capability. These systems will be integrated on existing Block 40 F-16 aircraft to provide daytime electro-optical imagery along Egypt's borders. It also allows Egypt to provide support during coalition operations and exercises. The Egyptian Air Force should have no problem operating and maintaining the TARS system on the F-16 aircraft.

The principle contractors will be: BAE Systems of Syosset, New York, and Recon Optical Incorporated of Barrington, Illinois. There are no offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

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

Implementation of this proposed sale will require semi-annual technical reviews with 10 each U.S. Government and contractor representatives to Egypt.

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.