

Required Special Temporary Authorization Statements

STA Explanation

This license application is for the F-16 Block 60 fighter aircraft Falcon Edge Electronic Warfare (EW) system. The F-16 Block 60 aircraft was developed and exported as a direct commercial sale from Lockheed Martin to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) under contract DP/A3/99/4P/66/31. The United States Government (USG) is participating in the F-16 Block 60 aircraft development (providing program oversight and support) under contract F33657-01-C-0014 between the United States Air Force F-16 Systems Group (ASC/WWM) and Lockheed Martin. In addition to the primary aircraft development contract, the USG, specifically the Air Combat Command (ACC) 68th Electronic Warfare Squadron (EWS), is tasked to develop EW mission data and to support combat employment of the EW system by certification of the mission data. The 68th EWS mission data development and support tasks are contracted per Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case AE-D-SAA-056. Lockheed Martin has agreed to support the 68th EWS with mission data certification.

The F-16 Block 60 aircraft and EW system have completed development, and 80 aircraft with EW systems have been exported to the UAE. This license application is specifically to support the 68th EWS in accomplishing EW mission data certification. The 68th EWS has negotiated an aggressive mission data certification schedule with the UAE, and the plan includes flight test, with EW jamming, at the United States Navy China Lake Electronic Combat Range (ECR). The only available China Lake ECR time that meets the schedule begins in early May. The currently scheduled ECR time is from 4 May through 2 June. If an FCC license is not granted in time to support test flights during this time period, the 68th EWS cannot meet their tasking commitments.

Purpose of Operation

The scope of EW jamming transmissions is limited to a small number of flights over the China Lake ECR. The flights consist of a China Lake ECR ground emitter engaging the F-16 Block 60 aircraft (transmitting a radar signal) and the F-16 Block 60 aircraft EW system responding with a programmed jamming signal. The Department of Defense (DoD) Western Area Frequency Coordinator for China Lake (John "Matt" Szelog) has been provided the classified EW system emitter characteristics and specific emitter and jamming technique test points. The DoD Western Area Frequency Coordinator for China Lake will be coordinating frequency management for all test flights.