

S-400 Procurement Continues as Planned

On December 29, the Undersecretariat for Defence Industries (SSM) issued a press release concerning the S-400 systems to be procured from the Russian Federation as part of the Long-Range Air and Missile Defence System project. The statement reads as follows: "Negotiations with the Russian Federation have been concluded within the scope of the Long-Range Air and Missile Defence System project, initiated to meet the long-range air and missile defence system requirements of Air Force Command. Pursuant to these negotiations, a total of two S-400 Systems (Batteries) will be procured, one of which will be retained as an option. Control of the S-400 system, which is effective both against aerial vehicles and ballistic missiles, will be entirely under the Turkish Armed Forces, and the system is capable

of operating independently without connection to external units or elements. Systems pertaining to the [S-400's] use, management, and friend or foe identification will be developed through indigenous means.

First delivery is planned for the first quarter of 2020, and the project contract also includes cooperation for the acquisition of technology, as well as a commitment for joint development.

Following the signing of the contract and the realisation of the advance payment, the project has started ahead of schedule. A credit agreement has also been signed concerning the portion [of the contract] that will be covered by a credit provided by the Russian Federation.

Moreover, work to ensure that long-range air defence needs can be met through indigenous capabilities are continuing with great



Launcher vehicle of the S-400 Triumf, in firing position.

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determination, in line with the country's national interests, and various works and activities are being conducted with the relevant countries and companies to support this model.

Outside official statements, however, some news and comments that have appeared in the press do not fully reflect the truth of the matter. As is the case in all defence projects, the technical aspects and payments details related to the systems are not being disclosed, as per confidentiality clauses the parties have agreed upon."

December has also seen two other developments concerning SSM projects.

- On December 18, the SSM published a

Request for Information Document for its Light Alloyed Support Bridge Project. Launched to meet a requirement of Land Forces Command, the project will involve the procurement of a complete system consisting of a Bridge Construction Vehicle, Bridge Transport Vehicle (or Vehicles), Bridge Materials, and, if necessary, Trailer Vehicle (or Vehicles), which together will be used to deploy a Logistic Support Bridge for the crossing of gaps, both dry and wet.

- On December 22, TÜMOSAN submitted its proposal for the National Powerpack Development Project. ♦

Berkin Engineering Expands Cooperative Activities Under the Emergency Intervention and Diving Training Boat Project with SMART Defence

Having signed a contract on November 29 with DESAN Shipyard, the prime contractor in the Emergency Intervention and Diving Training Boat (AMBED) project, concerning the integration of electronic systems onto the boats that will be produced as part of the said project, Berkin Engineering is continuing its activities at full pace. On December 13, the company signed a contract with SMART Defence to carry out electromagnetic interference and electromagnetic compatibility (EMI/EMC) analysis and testing on the electronic systems to be integrated onto these boats. The ceremony held for the contract covering the execution and reporting of these tests was attended by Yücel Atalay, Managing Director of Berkin Engineering, İbrahim Salçın, Chairman of the Board of SMART Defence and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cemil Berin Erol, Deputy General Manager of SMART Defence. Commenting on the signing of the contract, Atalay said: "We had already matured our works long before the signing on November 29, which allowed us to make a rapid start on the project. We are moving with firm steps towards our goal of



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completing all tasks we have undertaken, in a timely manner and at the desired level of quality." Speaking on the level of experience at SMART Defence, Salçın said: "Although we were established only in 2014, our team's total experience in electronic warfare and system integration is in excess of 80 years. In the projects on which we have worked previously, we've completed our defined tasks in a timely and thorough manner. This new contract is evidence of the trust placed in SMART Defence's knowledge and experience. We are honoured to work with Berkin Engineering on a project of such importance for our country."

Under the AMDEB project – which is being conducted by the Undersecretariat for Defence Industries, with DESAN shipyard as its prime contractor – the Turkish Naval Forces Command will be supplied with two boats that can be used for initial response in accidents in coastal areas; for the applied training of diving personnel; and also for torpedo search missions, when necessary. ♦