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Australian Government
Defence

Ministerial Correspondence

MC23-004246

Minister:	The Hon Richard Marles MP
CC:	SEC, CDF, VCDF, ASSOCSEC, DEPSEC GOV, FASMECC, CN
Subject:	s47F [REDACTED] s47F [REDACTED] - Sovereign Capability Provider
Initiator:	s47F [REDACTED]
Group/Division:	Navy
Clearance Officer:	Rear Admiral Stephen Hughes Head Navy Capability s47E(c) [REDACTED]
Action Officer:	s47E(c) [REDACTED] Director Navy Industry Liaison s47E(c) [REDACTED]
Date response provided to MO:	25 March 2024

Department Comments:

Navy officials, including Head Navy Capability, met with Elbit Systems of Australia representatives and visited their stand during Indo Pacific 2023 International Maritime Exposition.

In February 2024, Elbit announced that it has been awarded a contract worth approximately USD600 million to supply systems to Hanwha Defense Australia for Land 400 Phase 3. This project aims to deliver advanced protection, fighting capabilities and sensors suite to the Redback Infantry Fighting Vehicles for the Australian Army. The contract will be performed over a period of five years.

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s22

From: s47E(c)
Sent: Wednesday, 27 March 2024 2:34 PM
To: s47E(c) <s47E(c)>
Subject: MC23-004246 : s47F Elbit Systems - Sovereign Capability Provider PDMS
Notification - Record Assigned [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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PDR Record Assigned - [MC23-004246](#)
from s47E(c)
to Navy

Status:

Published

Subject:

s47F

Elbit Systems - Sovereign Capability

Provider

Instruction:	Hi Navy, DPMO would like to close this one off due to the time taken between receipt of correspondence and for a response to provided. PDR published for closure. Thanks, s47E(c).
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Milestones:

Due for **Clearance**: 28/11/2023 5:00 PM

Due to **Parliamentary**: 29/11/2023 5:00 PM

Due to **Minister's Office**: 01/12/2023 5:00 PM

For help with PDMS, please refer to the [PDMS Quick Reference Guides on the Intranet](#) or for technical issues and assistance please contact the PDMS Helpdesk on s47E(c) or at s47E(c) [@defence.gov.au](mailto:s47E(c)@defence.gov.au)

Thank You

PDMS Notification Service

Please do not reply to this message.

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Ministerial Correspondence

MC24-001257

Minister:	The Hon Richard Marles MP
For Info:	The Hon Pat Conroy MP
CC:	SEC, CDF, VCDF, ASSOCSEC, DEPSEC GOV, FASMECC
Subject:	s47F [redacted] to PM – recent contracts with Elbit
Initiator:	s47F [redacted]
Group/Division:	Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group
Clearance Officer:	Mr Chris Deeble AO CSC Deputy Secretary Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group s47E(c) [redacted]
Action Officer:	s47E(c) [redacted] Chief of Staff Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group s47E(c) [redacted]
Date response provided to MO:	2 May 2024

Department Comments:

On 5 April 2024, s47F [redacted] wrote to the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, regarding contracts with Elbit Systems (Elbit). s47F [redacted] correspondence is likely in response to the announcement of Hanwha Defense Australia (Hanwha) sub-contracting work in the infantry fighting vehicle LAND 400 Phase 3 program to Elbit. s47F [redacted] s47F [redacted].

Therefore, the attached draft correspondence for your consideration, has been written under the assumption that the s47F [redacted] relates to Elbit’s sub-contract with Hanwha. The Strategy, Policy and Industry Group has provided input on the issue of Defence exports to Israel.

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QUESTION BRIEF (QB)

TOPIC OF THE DAY: LAND 400 Phase 3 – Elbit Systems Limited

KEY MESSAGES

If asked: Is Defence in contract with Elbit Systems?

- Hanwha Defense Australia has awarded a contract to Elbit Systems Limited to manufacture the turret for the Redback Infantry Fighting Vehicle under LAND 400 Phase 3.
- Defence has no direct commercial relationship with Elbit Systems Limited or Elbit Land Systems Australia under LAND 400 Phase 3. All engagements regarding the LAND 400 Phase 3 contract are through Hanwha Defense Australia as the contracting entity.

If asked: Will Defence be exporting Elbit items to Israel?

- Turrets made under this contract are for use by the Australian Army. s33(a)
[REDACTED] (iii)

If asked: Does Defence hold security concerns about Elbit software related to the Infantry Fighting Vehicle?

- Defence works closely with industry partners to ensure that all contractual obligations, including security requirements, are met.
- The LAND 400 Phase 3 project has implemented security requirements in line with government and industry standards to protect Defence capability.
- s47G [REDACTED] the Defence Industry Security Program that sets security requirements and security controls across the domains of governance, personnel security, physical security, information and cyber security, including for their sub-contractors.

BACKGROUND

- The Government announced on 8 December 2023 that the Acquisition and Support contracts had recently been signed with Hanwha Defense Australia, for the delivery and initial support of 129 locally built Redback Infantry Fighting Vehicles.
- s47G [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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QUESTION BRIEF (QB)

TOPIC OF THE DAY: LAND 400 Phase 3 – Elbit Systems Limited

- The Elbit Systems Limited turret includes a range of sub-systems s33(a)(ii) [REDACTED]
- Any Defence items considered for export undergo a rigorous process through the Defence Export Controls Office which regulates the export and supply of military and dual-use goods and technologies.

MEDIA

Date	Outlet	Reporting
28 February 2024	ABC News	<u>Controversial Israeli weapons company awarded \$917 million Australian army contract</u>
28 February 2024	Ten News	<u>Elbit systems had its technology stripped from military equipment three years ago</u>
28 February 2024	Asia-Pacific Defence Reporter	<u>Elbit Systems wins Redback IFV system contract</u>
27 February 2024	Defence Connect	<u>Elbit Systems secures \$600m contract to supply systems for Aussie Redback IFV fleet.</u>
27 February 2024	Australian Defence Magazine	<u>Elbit Systems lands US\$600m contract</u>
26 February 2024	Elbit Systems Media	<u>Elbit Systems Awarded an Approximately \$600 Million Contract to Supply Systems for the Redback IFV Under the Australian Land 400 Phase 3 Project Elbit Systems</u>

Lead Division

Contact: MAJGEN Jason Blain
Division: Land Systems Division
Date first prepared: 19 March 2024
Originating Source: Defence

Phone: s47E(c) [REDACTED]
Action Officer: s47E(c) [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 19 March 2024

Contributing Division/s
Nil.

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Ministerial Correspondence

MC24-000679

Minister:	The Hon Richard Marles MP
For Info:	The Hon Pat Conroy MP
CC:	SEC, CDF, VCDF, ASSOCSEC, DEPSEC GOV, FASMECC
Subject:	s47F [redacted] to DPM - Announcement of partnership Hanwha Defense Australia and Elbit Systems on Redback IFVs
Initiator:	s47F [redacted]
Group/Division:	Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group
Clearance Officer:	Mr Chris Deeble Deputy Secretary, Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group s47E(c) [redacted]
Action Officer:	s47E(c) [redacted] Chief of Staff, Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group s47E(c) [redacted]
Date response provided to MO:	25 March 2024

Department Comments:

The attached correspondence for your consideration addresses the issue of Elbit's sub-contracted involvement in the Infantry Fighting Vehicle LAND 400 Phase 3 program. The draft correspondence also includes currently approved talking points on the issue of the conflict in Gaza. Consultation on the proposed draft response has occurred within both Land Systems Division in the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group, and International Policy Division within the Strategy, Policy and Industry Group. The draft response is consistent with approved talking points on this particular issue.

Office Comments:

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