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ATTACHMENT A

Questions taken on Notice

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade,
Foreign Affairs Subcommittee

Australia's relationship with ASEAN Hearing

12 September 2008

Question 1

Acquisitions by ASEAN countries

Mr Danby, Proof Hansard, 12 September 2008, p.34

Please provide the unclassified report: *Defence Economic Trends in the Asia Pacific 2007*, paying particular attention to the ASEAN countries as follows:

- a) What naval, air and other assets have been acquired by ASEAN countries since 2000? Please list which country acquired the asset.
- b) Has there been an increase?
- c) Is any growth in acquisitions influenced by China and India?

RESPONSE

Countries make acquisitions based on their understanding of others' strategic posture, interests, intent and capability, the resources available to them, and a range of other political, strategic and economic considerations. Specific acquisitions may also be driven by simple opportunity, a wish to replace aging capabilities, or internal institutional interests and dynamics.

South East Asian countries' acquisitions will be driven by an amalgam of the above factors, including their perceptions of major powers like India and China.

The table below provides a summary of major assets acquired by ASEAN members since 2000. The Defence Intelligence Organisation has published further classified assessments to inform development of previous Defence Strategic Updates and the new Defence White Paper. Further analysis at the unclassified level has been conducted by well-known think tanks including the Australian Strategic Policy Institute in its paper *Asian Military Trends and their Implications for Australia* July 2008.

The Defence Intelligence Organisation publication *Defence Economic Trends in the Asia-Pacific 2007* is available at:

http://www.defence.gov.au/dio/documents/2007_DET.pdf

Date entered or expected in service	Country	Asset description	Comments on capability increase
2000	Brunei	2 x S-70A Firehawk utility helicopter	Extends existing capability
2000	Thailand	2 x offshore patrol vessels	Replaced aging capability
2000	Thailand	20 x BJ7 Alpha Jet ground attack/strike fighter	Replaced aging capability
2000	Thailand	3 x Sikorsky S-70A-43 Blackhawk helicopters	Modernized aging capability
2000-2001	Burma	2 x 75m corvettes	Extends existing capability
2000-2001	Burma	4 x 45m missile patrol craft	Replaced aging capability
2000-2001	Singapore	4 x ENDURANCE-class landing platform dock	Modernized aging capability
2000-2001	Thailand	3 x MAN NOK troop landing vessel	Extends existing capability
2001	Malaysia	2 x fast troop transport vessels	New capability
2001	Malaysia	3 x Eagle UAV	New capability
2001	Malaysia	ANZA II Very short range air defence missile	Extends existing capability
2001	Singapore	10 x CH-47SD Chinook transport helicopter	Replaced aging capability
2001-2003	Burma	3 x corvettes	Extends existing capability
2001-2004	Thailand	30 x refurbished UH-1H Iroquois helicopters	Extends existing capability
2001-2004	Indonesia	4 x Todak class patrol boats (PB-57)	Modernized aging capability
2002	Indonesia	10 x SF-260MS and 8 x SF-260WS light aircraft pilot trainer	New capability
2002	Indonesia	12 x EC-120 Colibri helicopter trainer police patrol and light utility	New capability
2002	Malaysia	18 x ASTROS II multi-launch rocket systems	New Capability
2002	Malaysia	22 x G-5 155mm towed guns	Extends existing capability
2002	Myanmar	10 x Mig-29 multi-role fighters	New capability
2002	Singapore	20 x AH64D Apache Longbow attack-helicopter	New capability
2002	Vietnam	2 x SVETLYAK-class patrol boats	Replaced aging capability
2003	Indonesia	12 x KT-1B Woong-Bee trainer aircraft	New capability
2003	Indonesia	2 x Su-27SK and 2 x Su-30MK multi-role fighters	New capability
2003	Indonesia	2 x Mi-35P 'Hind F' attack helicopters	New capability

2003	Indonesia	1 x TANJUNG DAPELE Class auxiliary hospital ship	New capability
2003	Indonesia	1 x AGL auxiliary buoy tender	New capability
2003	Indonesia	2 x offshore patrol craft	New capability
2003	Malaysia	6 x Superlynx helicopters	New capability
2003	Philippines	1 x armoured recovery vehicle	New capability
2003	Philippines	8 x OC-10C Bronco ground attack aircraft	Extends existing capability
2003-2004	Singapore	4 x CHALLENGER-class submarines	New capability.
2003-2005	Indonesia	13 x KAL-36 patrol boats	Modernized aging capability
2003-2009	Malaysia	6 x MEKO 100 offshore patrol vessels (2 in service)	Modernized aging capability
2004	Indonesia	1 x B737-200 VIP aircraft	Extends existing capability
2004	Malaysia	6 x Fennec helicopters	Replaced aging capability
2004	Philippines	1 x ex-US CYCLONE-class coastal patrol ship	Replaced aging capability
2004	Thailand	2 x Sikorsky S-70A-50 Blackhawk helicopters	Modernized aging capability
2004	Vietnam	4 x Su-30MK2V interceptor/air defence fighter	New capability
2005	Indonesia	36 x BTR-80 armoured personnel carriers	Modernized aging capability
2005	Indonesia	2 x disaster response ships (WPSO)	New capability
2005	Malaysia	211 ADNAN armoured combat vehicles	New capability
2005	Malaysia	9 x Jernas SAM launchers	New capability
2005	Singapore	2 x Protector 9m unmanned surface vehicles	New capability
2005	Singapore	54 x Primus self-propelled howitzers	Modernized aging capability
2005	Thailand	2 x Superlynx 300 helicopters	Modernized aging capability
2005	Thailand	7 x F-16A/B multi-role fighters	Extends existing capability
2005	Vietnam	2 x SA-20 Surface to Air missiles batteries (12 launchers)	New capability
2005-2006	Malaysia	11 x A109M light utility helicopters	Replaced aging capability
2005-2009	Singapore	6 x FORMIDABLE-class frigate (2 in service)	Claimed to be replacement for aging patrol boats
2006	Burma	2 x BN-2 maritime patrol aircraft	New capability
2006	Cambodia	2 x patrol boats	Replaced aging capability
2006	Indonesia	1 x CN235-220M transport aircraft	Extends existing capability

2006	Indonesia	32 x VAB armoured personnel carriers	Extends existing capability
2006	Philippines	2 x ex-South Korean patrol boats	Extends existing capability
2006	Singapore	20 x F-16D Block 52+ multi-role fighters	Extends existing capability
2006	Thailand	2 x offshore patrol vessels	Replaced aging capability
2006	Vietnam	SA-10 surface to air missile unknown quantity	Replaced aging capability
2006-2007	Indonesia	6 x KAL-40 patrol boats	Modernized aging capability
2006-2008	Malaysia	48 x PT-91M main battle tanks	New capability
2007	Cambodia	4 x 46m patrol boats	Replaced aging capability
2007	Cambodia	3 x 20m patrol boats	Replaced aging capability
2007	Indonesia	5 x 36m patrol craft	Modernized aging capability
2007	Singapore	Elbit Hermese 450 unmanned aerial vehicle	Extends existing capability
2007	Thailand	3 x patrol boats	Replaced aging capability
2007	Vietnam	2 x TARUNTUL V class corvettes	Extends existing capability
2007-2008	Malaysia	18 x Su-30MKM multi-role fighters	New capability
2007-2009	Indonesia	4 x SIGMA Class corvettes (2 delivered in 2007, 1 delivered in 2008, 1 scheduled for 2009)	Modernized aging capability
2007-2010	Indonesia	4 x MAKASSAR Class landing platform dock (2 delivered in 2007, 1 scheduled for 2009 and 1 for 2010.)	Modernized aging capability
2008	Indonesia	2 x ship sets C-802 anti-ship cruise missiles	New capability
2008	Indonesia	6 x Mi-17-V5 'Hip' transport helicopters	New capability
2008	Indonesia	1 x CN235-220 maritime patrol aircraft	Modernized aging capability
2008	Malaysia	5 x coastal surveillance radars along east coast of Sabah	New capability
2008	Malaysia	14 x armoured recovery and engineering vehicles	Extends existing capability
2008	Singapore	6 x S-70B helicopters	New capability
2008	Singapore	96 x Leopard 2A4 main battle tanks (30 to be cannibalized for spares)	Modernized aging capability
2008	Singapore	4 x Gulfstream G550 airborne early warning aircraft	Replaced aging capability
2008	Thailand	1 x hydrographic/ multipurpose vessel	Replaced aging capability

2008	Thailand	42 x RAVA 4x4 armoured personnel carriers	Extends existing capability
2008-2010	Indonesia	150 x Panser armoured personnel carriers (20 to be delivered in 2008)	Modernized aging capability
2009	Malaysia	18 x ASTROS II multi-launch rocket systems	Extends existing capability
2009	Philippines	18 x SF260 training aircraft	Extends existing capability
2009	Thailand	2 x MH-60 helicopters	Extends existing capability
2009-2010	Malaysia	2 x SCORPENE-class submarines	New capability
2009-2010	Malaysia	48 x armoured combat vehicles	Extends existing capability
2009-2010	Malaysia	8 x ADNAN mortar carriers	Extends existing capability
2009-2010	Vietnam	2 x GEPARD-class frigates	New capability
2010	Malaysia	20 x high mobility tactical vehicles	Extends existing capability
2010	Singapore	18 x HIMARS high mobility artillery rocket system	New capability
2010?	Malaysia	2 x LEKIU batch 2 frigates	Extends existing capability
2010?	Singapore	2 x VASTERGOTLAND-class submarines	Extends existing capability
2012	Thailand	2 x Saab 340 twin-turboprop with Erieye systems for airborne early warning	New Capability
2012-2013	Thailand	12 x Gripen JAS 39 multi-role fighters	Modernized aging capability

Explanatory notes on military acquisitions: The acquisition of military equipment and platforms by any nation does not always reflect an increase in military capability. In particular, some states acquire military assets unsuited to their operating environment while others fail to provide the required supporting aspects of military capability such as doctrine, training and logistics support to operate equipment effectively.

Furthermore, replacement of aging assets is generally not conducted on a one-for-one basis. Although the acquisition of newer assets can offer greater performance through technological advances, technically educated and qualified personnel and support structures are also generally required to operate and maintain such equipment. The acquisition of some platforms is often normally spread across several years and there can be a significant time delay between a country committing to a military purchase and the platform entering operational service.

Question 2

China's rise in the region

Senator Trood, Proof Hansard, 12 September, p.40

What is the Department's assessment of the impact of China's rise in the region?

RESPONSE

China's emergence as a major market and driver of economic activity both regionally and globally has benefited the expansion of economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region and globally. As China's economy has grown it has naturally sought to extend its influence in the region's security architecture.

ASEAN members have responded to China's growth by increasing the frequency of their engagement with Beijing. This engagement has occurred both on a bilateral basis and also through regional organisations such as the ASEAN-China Summit, the ASEAN Regional Forum and the East Asia Summit. China was instrumental in the establishment of the ASEAN Regional Forum Security Policy Conference in 2004. In the margins of this framework, China has had the opportunity to engage further with ASEAN Defence officials. In addition, China is engaged in Free Trade Agreement negotiations with ASEAN (goods and services agreements have been concluded) to enhance its competitiveness in the ASEAN markets and deliver greater certainty and transparency for its services exporters and investors.

Defence considers that this increased engagement reflects a desire amongst ASEAN members to work with China to maintain a peaceful, stable and prosperous region.

Question 3

Selling surplus Defence equipment in ASEAN countries

Mr MacFarlane, Proof Hansard, 12 September 2008, p.42

- a) What opportunities are there for Australia to sell equipment in ASEAN countries, specifically electronic equipment, such as radars?
- b) What arrangements are in place to protect Australian Defence intelligence issues?

RESPONSE

a) Following the recovery of ASEAN economies from the 1990s downturn, a number of regional countries are catching up on deferred defence expenditure. Their interest in Australian defence products includes items such as land-based vehicles, vessels and radars of varying configurations. These have been actively marketed in the region. Australian companies have products that are well placed to meet emerging requirements. The Defence Export Unit is assisting Australian companies to access market opportunities in the region.

b) The legislative basis for monitoring the export of controlled defence and dual-use goods is through Regulation 13E of the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958* of the *Customs Act 1901*. The Defence and Strategic Goods List (DSGL) is the publication containing the complete list of defence and dual-use goods and technology controlled for export under Regulation 13E. The DSGL incorporates the control lists of the international regimes to which Australia is a party. The DSGL covers items mentioned by Mr MacFarlane such as radars, Bushmaster Armoured Vehicles and specially designed or modified vessels for offensive or defensive action.

Goods specified in the DSGL may not be exported from Australia unless a licence or permission has been granted by the Minister for Defence or an authorised person.

When an exporter wishes to export goods from Australia which are listed on the DSGL, they apply for an export permit or licence through the Defence Export Control Office (DECO). All applications to export controlled goods are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Applications deemed more sensitive due to the goods or destination may then be referred to other Australian Government agencies via the Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Defence Exports, for interdepartmental consultation based on the publicly available criteria.

DECO takes into account the recommendations provided by other agencies when deciding whether to issue a permit or licence for the export of the goods. Only the Minister for Defence can deny export permission for goods.