



Arab Defense Industry Papers News Bulletin

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Overview

The Big Picture	1
Defense Industry	4
Defense Exports	6
Defense Modernization and Support	6
Defense Procurement.....	7
Military Cooperation and Training.....	9
Cybersecurity and Space	11
Critical Infrastructure Protection and Border Security.....	12

Dear Reader,

As a turbulent year is coming to its end, I would like to thank you for your loyalty and continued interest in the ADIP News Bulletin. Currently close to 240 readers enjoy reading the Bulletin as regular subscribers, and many more use other digital channels to read it. I look forward to providing you with the ADIP News Bulletin in 2018 and would be grateful for any comments and suggestions to further improve this product. May you all celebrate a wonderful Christmas filled with happiness and joy.

Heiko Borchert

The Big Picture

Bahrain

Al Defaiya, 4 December 2017. Bahrain and the U.S. have extended the **Defense Cooperation Agreement** for 15 years. The extension was signed during the visit of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, and U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson in Washington D.C. (<http://bit.ly/2kzSboC>).

Egypt

Jane's Defence Weekly, 1 December 2017. **Russia** may use the "airspace and aerodrome infrastructure" in Egypt, according to a document released by the Russian government on 30 November 2017 (<http://bit.ly/2AEBRqL>).

Israel

Jane's Defence Weekly, 6 December 2017. "The Israeli Air Force (IAF) has declared its fleet of Lockheed Martin **F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter (JSF)** aircraft to be **operational**, the service announced on 6 December 2017" (<http://bit.ly/2Aounv2>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 23 November 2017. "Israel's Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman has requested a **significant unplanned increase** to the defence budget, citing dramatic changes in the region, including the Russian military presence in Syria and the proliferation of guided weaponry" (<http://bit.ly/2juoeTs>).

Iran

Fars News Agency, 7 November 2017. Ayatollah Seyed Al Khamenei, Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution and Commander-in-Chief of Iran's Armed Forces, has **appointed** BG Mohammad Hossein Dadras as new Deputy Chief Commander of the Army. He also appointed RADM Hossein Kzanzadi as new Commander of Iran's Navy (<http://bit.ly/2nHiVVD>).

Kuwait

Al Defaiya, 5 December 2017. "**France** announced choosing **Kuwaiti Commander Sheikh Mubarak Ali Al-Sabah** as the '**Defense Figure**' of 2017 in recognition of his contribution to the development of security and defense services." The French Defense Ministry organized a special event on this occasion that will allow Al-Sabah to "talk on a number of security and strategic issues with French military officials" (<http://bit.ly/2k9tFHe>).

Qatar

Al Arabiya, 20 December 2017. Qatar surprised the international community when it showcased **Chinese-made SY400 BP-12A missile systems** during the national day parade on 15 December 2017. Reports suggest that Qatar began purchasing the system after the 2014 dispute with GCC allies. "SY400 is an offensive missile with reach that only is against its Arab Gulf neighbors. Qatar effectively is showing the Anti-Terror Quartet that Doha can attack them if necessary," Theodore Karasik, Senior Advisor at Gulf State Analytics, told Al Arabiya English (<http://bit.ly/2Be2iTw>).

Saudi Arabia

IMCTC, 26 November 2016. Riyadh hosted the **inaugural meeting** of the Ministers of Defense Council of the **Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition (IMCTC)**. According to the official press release, the Council agreed on combating terrorism in the ideology, communications, counter

terrorist financing, and military domains. In addition, Ministers also agreed on a coalition working mechanism (<http://bit.ly/2juJgBD>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 23 November 2017. "Vessels from the Royal Saudi Naval Forces' (RSNF's) Gulf-based Eastern Fleet have been seen in the Eritrean **port of Assab** for the first time, satellite imagery has confirmed. Two Badr-class corvettes and an Al-Jawf (Sandown)-class mine countermeasures vessel were present at Assab on 15 November. Both classes are used by the Eastern Fleet based in the Gulf at Al-Jubayl, but not the Western Fleet based at Jiddah. Only naval vessels from the United Arab Emirates' (UAE's) navy have been seen before at Assab" (<http://bit.ly/2A1PPVU>).

Al Defaiya, 23 November 2017. "In an interview by **Russian** news agency TASS on the sidelines of (the) Dubai Airshow 2017, Victor Kladov, Director of International Cooperation and Regional Policy of Rostec Corporation, said: 'We have an **active dialogue with Saudi Arabia in many fields**. They are interested not only in the Russian equipment but also in Russian technologies. I would prefer not to go into details, but the dialogue is positive'" (<http://bit.ly/2BNaDNY>).

Al Defaiya, 7 November 2017. "The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud ordered late Saturday (4 November 2017) that Prince Miteb bin Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, the **Minister of National Guard**, be sacked of his office. Prince Khalid bin Abdulaziz bin Mohammed bin Ayyaf Al Muqren was appointed as Minister of the National Guard" (<http://bit.ly/2j6XyLL>).

Syria

Daily Sabah, 22 December 2017. On 21 December 2017, "**Russia's parliament ratified an agreement** with Damascus to expand the Russian military's naval facility in the **Syrian port of Tartus**. (...) Valid for 49 years, it allows for the expansion and modernization of the facility used by the Russian navy. Under the deal, a maximum of 11 Russian warships including nuclear-powered vessels can be present at Tartus at any given time." The respective agreement was signed in January 2017 (<http://bit.ly/2kECfP9>).

United Arab Emirates

The National, 5 December 2017. The **UAE** announced on 5 December "it had formed a **new alliance with Saudi Arabia** in a move that will bring the two countries closer together on a wide range of key areas including defense, political institutions and the economy. According to the resolution, issued by the President, Sheikh Khalifa, the committee will coordinate all military, political, economic, trade and cultural fields, as well as others, in the interest of the two countries" (<http://bit.ly/2AFjhi3>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 16 November 2017. A report by the UN Monitoring Group on Somalia and Eritrea suggests that **construction of the UAE naval base close to the Berbera port has started**. "In return for the base, the UAE will build a new civilian airport for Berbera and rehabilitate the road linking the city to the Ethiopian border at Wajaale" (<http://bit.ly/2A3sn7r>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 16 November 2017. "**Russian** industry representatives are becoming **skeptical** regarding a potential purchase by the **UAE** of **Su-35** aircraft. They believe interest in the Su-35 is just being used as leverage in negotiations over the purchase of a US-built fighter" (<http://bit.ly/2k9a2iw>).

Yemen

Jane's Defence Weekly, 9 November 2017. Yemeni rebels claim to produce an **anti-ship missile** they revealed at an event on 6 November 2017. Photographs suggest the missiles "appeared to be the same as the Chinese-made C-801" that had been supplied to the Navy of Yemen in the mid-1990s (<http://bit.ly/2B2klPE>).

Defense Industry

Israel

Jane's International Defence Review, 15 November 2017. Elbit Systems has developed the **new Hermes 45 UAV**. The new system can operate more than 24 hours, carry payload of up to 15 kg, and is intended for intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions (<http://bit.ly/2BgpPTu>).

Iran

Jane's Defence Weekly, 29 November 2017. The Islamic Republic of Iran Navy (IRIN) has unveiled the model of a **training ship**. According to Iranian media reports, the "vessel will be 135 m long and 16 m wide" and would displace 6,500 tons. "The model showed it armed with four anti-ship missiles and fitted with a helicopter deck." IRIN claims this would be the "largest warship in west Asia" (<http://bit.ly/2BkqN5g>).

Fars News Agency, 22 November 2017. Iran has "successfully tested **active protection systems** on its home-made Karrar tanks," FNA reported quoting BG Ahmad Reza Pourdastan, Iranian Army (<http://bit.ly/2BgXVLI>).

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Press Agency, 17 November 2017. **Lockheed Martin** CEO Marleen Huston and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense, met in Riyadh to discuss "chances to cement industrial and military cooperation" that reflect the goals of the Kingdom's Vision 2030 (<http://bit.ly/2AZPofg>).

Turkey

Quwa, 13 December 2017. Turkey's STM is said to be confident about current talks with prospective **MILGEM** customers. Discussions with **Pakistan** about four ships are ongoing. Construction would be evenly split among both countries. **Saudi Arabia** could be interested in up to five corvettes. In

addition, STM is also “pitching the MILGEM-based CF3500 frigate to **Colombia**” (<http://bit.ly/2z8gOuo>).

Quwa, 12 December 2017. “Turkey’s Undersecretariat of Defence Industries (SSM) has contracted the private-sector company **Kale Havacılık** (Kale Aero) to design, develop and produce a miniature **turbojet engine** for Roketsan’s new cruise missiles, including the Standoff Missile (SOM). Domestic engine production is to begin next year” (<http://bit.ly/2BtoYmX>).

Jane’s Defence Weekly, 27 November 2017. Turkey’s Defense Industries Undersecretariat (SSM) has opened the tender to develop **engines for the Altay MBT program**. Türmosan, BMC Otomotiv, Figes Fizik, Istanbul Maritime Shipbuilding and Turkish Aerospace Industries Engine (TEI) have been invited for the program that could be worth more than US\$8bn for a total of 750 tanks (500 + 250 options, <http://bit.ly/2BUqrzc>).

Jane’s Defence Weekly, 3 November 2017. “The Executive Committee of Turkey’s Defence Industries Undersecretariat (SSM) discussed **22 defence industry projects worth around US\$5 billion** during a meeting on 2 November 2017.” Without providing further details on the decisions taken, the statement referred to the following projects: “Development of national long-range air and missile defense systems, missiles and smart ammunition, electronic jamming and electronic warfare systems, various calibers of grenade launchers, rifle and pistol development and serial production, naval platforms, their missiles, and other weapon systems, modernization, development, and additional serial production of combat and general purpose helicopters” (<http://bit.ly/2BV7MTT>).

Jane’s Defence Weekly, 2 November 2017. TAI “announced on 31 October it has begun domestic development of the **ATAK 2 attack helicopter**” (<http://bit.ly/2Blktui>).

United Arab Emirates

Saab, 14 December 2017. **Saab** is going to establish a development and production facility “with an initial focus on sensor systems” in the Abu Dhabi-based Tawazun Industrial Park, the company announced (<http://bit.ly/2D2MT9Y>).

Jane’s Defence Weekly, 7 December 2017. **Raytheon** has announced the establishment of Raytheon Emirates. John Brauneis currently VP of Supply Chain Management, will lead the wholly owned company (<http://bit.ly/2y7Pbkm>).

Jane’s Defence Industry, 17 November 2017. **BAE Systems** is about to transfer expertise related to the Hawk trainer aircraft to UAE-based Advanced Military Maintenance Repair and Overhaul Center (AMMROC), “renewing an agreement between the two companies that was already in place, which will now run to 2020” (<http://bit.ly/2AQFokO>).

Jane’s Defence Weekly, 13 November 2017. **QinetiQ** and UAE-based Middle East General Enterprises (MGE) have launched a joint venture to build and

develop aerial and maritime target drones, “which will be used in test and evaluation, acceptance, and training roles” (<http://bit.ly/2nHDlxC>).

Al Defaiya, 10 November 2017. **NIMR Automotive**, a subsidiary of the Emirates Defence Industry Company, is to expand its reach in Southeast Asia with new agreements with industry partners in Malaysia and Thailand. In **Malaysia**, NIMR and DefTech deepen their relationship to finalize a Strategic Partnership Agreement in early 2018. The agreement will provide marketing support for NIMR vehicles in Malaysia and other countries in the region. NIMR is also working closely with FICO Technology and Engineering in **Thailand** to “explore potential opportunities in the country” (<http://bit.ly/2jbHOXQ>).

Defense Exports

Turkey

Daily Sabah, 17 December 2017. Turkish armored vehicle manufacturer **Nuro** is about to supply 400 Ejder Yalcin 4x4 armored combat vehicles and more than one hundred NMS 4x4 light armored vehicles to **Qatar**. Some of these vehicles will reportedly be equipped with SARP-DUAL, a remote-controlled weapon station by Aselsan (<http://bit.ly/2DjLWKf>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 13 November 2017. The **Ukrainian military** is to equip all combat military units with Aselsan VHF radios between 2018 and 2020. The systems will be assembled in Ukraine, MajGen Volodymyr Rapko, Chief of the Ukrainian Signal Corps, told the press on 10 November 2017 (<http://bit.ly/2Amf1Hj>).

United Arab Emirates

Al Defaiya, 7 November 2017. **Turkmenistan** has ordered the AJBAN long-range special operations vehicle from **NIMR Automotive** and thus sealed the company's first export contract outside the MENA region. Contract details were not disclosed (<http://bit.ly/2AZQ8ky>).

Defense Modernization and Support

Israel

Jane's Defence Weekly, 30 November 2017. “The Israeli Navy has completed the installation of a **new radar** on the first of its Saar 4.5 missile ships and has begun work on a second ship of the same class.” The new ALPHA radar “is the most significant part of an upgrade that is being rolled out across the class” (<http://bit.ly/2j9al03>).

Iran

Fars News Agency, 7 December 2017. “The IRGC Ground Force is trying to grow all the components of its power, including the **airborne, drone and**

electronic war (systems), and the Ground Force has had considerable growth in gathering information from distance areas," General Salami said according to FNA. He also stressed that the IRGC Ground Force enjoys high air and missile capabilities, adding that its forces have also achieved many experiences in Syria, Iraq (as military advisors) and Northwestern and Southeastern parts of Iran and are fully updated" (<http://bit.ly/2kFdwNH>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 6 December 2017. "The Islamic Republic of Iran Navy (IRIN) commissioned its fourth domestically built **Sina fast attack craft** on 5 December. The commissioning of Separ (P 234) took place at the IRIN's Bandar-e Anzali base on the Caspian" (<http://bit.ly/2kyBLwL>).

Jordan

Army Recognition, 13 December 2017. **Rheinmetall** has been contracted by the German Ministry of Defense to upgrade **25 Marder infantry fighting vehicles** destined for Jordan. The modernization package encompasses "spare parts, ammunition, documentation, special tools, customer support on location as well as training for operators and maintenance personnel." The contract is worth €17M. Delivery shall start in the first quarter 2018 (<http://bit.ly/2CNSvUw>).

United Arab Emirates

Al Defaiya, 20 November 2017. "Strata Manufacturing PJSC (Strata), the advanced composite aero structures manufacturing facility wholly owned by Mubadala Investment Company (Mubadala), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Assistance Aéronautique et Aérospatiale (AAA). The MoU will enable **Strata** and **AAA** to collaborate and further contribute to **aircraft manufacturing support services** and advancement of vital supply chain capabilities" (<http://bit.ly/2BXmCcv>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 16 November 2017; *Al Defaiya*, 23 November 2017. The UAE announced to **upgrade its Mirage 2000 fighters** at the 2017 Dubai Airshow, but provided no details "pertaining to the work involved, timelines, or the projected cost of this upgrade." Dassault and Thales will work on the upgrade (<http://bit.ly/2AGqu1z>; <http://bit.ly/2A5lilp>).

Defense Procurement

Iraq

Al Defaiya, 21 November 2017. **Uralgavonzavod** has supplied the first **T-90** battle tanks to the Iraqi Army. In mid-July 2017, Uralgavonazvod announced the delivery of 73 T-90 and T90SK tanks to Iraq (<http://bit.ly/2AYwXHL>).

Kuwait

Jane's Defence Weekly, 20 December 2017. "The first contract covering Kuwait's **new fleet of Abrams tanks** was announced by the US Department of Defense on 19 December. The US\$24.3M contract awarded to General Dynamics Land Systems covers the design, development, and building of a 'unique' Abrams variant called the M1A2-K for Kuwait. The contract is expected to be completed by 31 December 2019. (...) A State Department official told *Jane's* that Kuwait had decided to buy additional tanks instead of upgrading its existing ones" (<http://bit.ly/2BHLbuj>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 14 November 2017. The Air Force of Kuwait considers procuring **UAV**. According to MajGen Abdullah al-Foudari, the Air Forces is studying U.S. and European offers for UAVs to be "used in reconnaissance missions, border surveillance, and to provide operations rooms with real time images". Whether these UAVs will be armed or not has not yet been decided (<http://bit.ly/2yOA2bo>).

Oman

Jane's Defence Weekly, 23 November 2017. "The Omani Ministry of Defence (MoD) announced on 21 November that the **FNSS 8x8 Pars armoured vehicle** has been inaugurated into service" (<http://bit.ly/2kBCA84>).

Qatar

BAE Systems, 10 December 2017. Following the signature of an LoI in mid-September 2017, Qatar and BAE Systems have signed a contract for the delivery of **24 Eurofighters**. The contract is worth up to £5bn. The first payment is expected no later than mid-2018 with aircraft delivery to start in late 2022 (<http://bit.ly/2kSmumZ>).

Financial Times, 7 December 2017. Qatar has signed contracts worth €12bn with **France** to exercise an option for 12 additional **Rafale fighter** jets and 490 **Nexter armored vehicles** (<http://on.ft.com/2j3AWfh>).

Saudi Arabia

Jane's Defence Weekly, 13 December 2017. The Pentagon has contracted **Raytheon Missile Systems** to deliver 618 AGM-154 Joint Standoff Weapon glide bombs to Saudi Arabia. The contract is worth US\$302M and shall be completed by June 2022 (<http://bit.ly/2CNUYOM>).

Jane's Navy International, 29 November 2017. The coastguard arm of the Saudi Border Guard (SBG) took delivery of two more **Lürssen-built 40 m patrol boats** in late November." The patrol boats will be deployed to the east coast of Saudi Arabia. In 2014, Saudi Arabia awarded a €1.5bn contract to Lürssen for the delivery of at least 146 hulls (<http://goo.gl/CM8LhA>).

Defense News, 12 November 2017. Saudi Arabia reportedly shows **interest** in joining the UEA's plea for **F35 Joint Strike Fighters**. At the 2017 Dubai Air Show the UAE underlined its interest in purchasing up to 24 aircraft. According to *Defense News*, Saudi Arabia is "also seeking to procure F-35 jets,

and talks are making an important progress, as stated by officials who refused to be named" (<http://bit.ly/2hm1ftR>).

Turkey

TAI, 17 December 2017. Turkish Aerospace Industries has released the **specifications of the new indigenous TF-X fighter** that will replace F-16 fighter jets currently operated by the Turkish Air Force. According to the statement, the TF-X "will be a multi-role aircraft, it will be designed mainly for air-to-air role with a consideration to air-to-surface roles as well" (<http://bit.ly/2BJGrXv>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 14 December 2017. Turkey's special forces have received Alpagu and Kargu **loitering munitions developed by STM**. Alpagu is a "fixed-wing, pneumatically tube-launched" loitering munition, whereas Kargu has a quadcopter design (<http://bit.ly/2yYs0JP>).

United Arab Emirates

Jane's Defence Weekly, 22 November 2017. "Serbia's Yugoimport SDPR defence import/export organisation tested and demonstrated the **Nora-B52 M15 155 mm/52-calibre wheeled self-propelled howitzer**" in the UAE on 21 November 2017. "The NORA B-52 engaged targets at a distance of 16 km at the event held at an artillery range north of Abu Dhabi" (<http://bit.ly/2B1TKIz>).

Al Defaiya, 16 November 2017. At the 2017 Dubai Air Show the UAE Armed Forces announced to buy **five C-295 military transport aircraft** and related services from Airbus Defence and Space, Spain (<http://bit.ly/2BiNwPf>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 10 November 2017. French **Naval Group** has received an order for **two Gowind corvettes** with an option for another two during the visit of French President Macron to Abu Dhabi on 9 November 2017 (<http://bit.ly/2BggUWa>).

Military Cooperation and Training

Bahrain

Bahrain News Agency, 14 December 2017. The National Guard of Bahrain and the **Pakistani Army** have signed an MoU for Bandar 2, a Joint Counter-Terrorism Exercise, to be organized in Bahrain (<http://bit.ly/2Bdw7rs>).

Egypt

Ahram Online, 16 December 2017. Egypt and **France** have inaugurated a **training center for Rafale fighter jet pilots** at an Egyptian airbase (<http://bit.ly/2k4K6VW>).

Al Defaiya, 6 November 2017. In early November 2017, Egyptian naval and air force units arrived in **Greece** to take part in the Medusa 5 military exer-

cise. Egypt deployed a Mistral assault-ship and a FREMM frigate along with submarine (41) (<http://bit.ly/2BO3QUp>).

Iran

Fars News Agency, 8 November 2017. "The Chief-of-Staff of Iran's Armed Forces Major General Mohammad Hossein Baqeri and **Pakistan's** Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa in a meeting in Tehran underlined the need to **expand defense and military cooperation** between the two countries" (<http://bit.ly/2AISM4m>).

Jordan

Al Defaiya, 19 December 2017. "King Abdullah II of Jordan met with **Canadian Defense Minister Harjit Sajjan** in Amman. They discussed ways to enhance cooperation between the two countries in the military and security fields" (<http://bit.ly/2p0MtxV>).

Lebanon

Reuters, 13 December 2017. "The **United States**, which wants to prevent violence spilling over from Syria into Lebanon, will give the Lebanese army **\$120 million more in aid** to boost border security and counter-terrorism work, the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon," Elizabeth Holzhall Richard, said on 13 December 2017 (<http://reut.rs/2Bj2gdk>).

Associated Press, 30 November 2017. **Cyprus** will support Lebanon to establish a **search-and-rescue center** to respond to emergencies. "A Defense Ministry statement says Cypriot officials will provide Lebanese authorities with training, technical know-how and financial assistance for the center. The statement says the center will help boost cooperation between the countries on maritime security in the east Mediterranean" (<http://bit.ly/2iDHRyB>).

Qatar

Jane's Defence Weekly, 15 December 2017. "Qatari pilots and ground crew will be **integrated into a UK Eurofighter Typhoon squadron** for work-up training ahead of the Middle East country taking delivery of its own aircraft in 2022. A new UK Royal Air Force (RAF) Typhoon, 12 (Bomber) Squadron will take on the Qatari training role after it relocates to RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire" (<http://bit.ly/2B1NJTe>).

Jane's Defence Weekly, 8 November 2017. The **AW139 helicopter simulation facility built by Havelan** was "officially opened at Qatar's Al-Udeid Air Base during a visit by Turkish Defence Minister Nurettin Canikli on 5 November" (<http://bit.ly/2A3jtXi>).

Saudi Arabia

Jane's Defence Industry, 21 November 2017. "**Strat Aero and Alnahdi Aviation Technology (AAT)** have signed a teaming agreement to establish an

unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) training centre in Saudi Arabia. The centre will be used to train both military and civilian pilots and sensor operators" (<http://bit.ly/2y8v4Tm>).

United Arab Emirates

WAM, 20 December 2017. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, met **Canadian Minister of Defense Harjit Sajjan** on 18 December 2017. Both discussed "mutual ties (...) especially in the military and defense fields" (<http://bit.ly/2BeYTUD>).

Al Defaiya, 7 December 2017. Sheikh Abdulla bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, has received **Paul Rinto, Brazil's Minister of Defense**, on 5 December 2017 to discuss ways to bolster cooperation in security and military affairs (<http://bit.ly/2AJfO4q>).

Al Defaiya, 7 December 2017. UAE, the U.S., the UK, and French armed forces kicked off the **Flag4 military exercises** in the UAE. The exercise is conducted in the framework of the UAE's military cooperation to improve combat efficiency (<http://bit.ly/2AJfO4q>).

WAM, 6 November 2017. "Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Bowardi, UAE's Minister of State for Defense Affairs, received the **South Korean Defense Minister, Song Young-moo**, and his accompanying delegation, to discuss both countries' strategic partnership" (<http://bit.ly/2A317pv>).

Cybersecurity and Space

Israel

Jane's Defence Weekly, 7 December 2017. The **Australian Signals Directorate** has accredited Votiro to "supply products to Australian government customers, including defense." The Israeli company "specializes in content disarm and reconstruction technologies." (<http://bit.ly/2iFIVwI>)

United Arab Emirates

Al Defaiya, 15 December 2017. The UAE Space Agency, the National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority and the Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre have joined the **International Charter on Space and Major Disasters**. Charter members agree to share satellite imagery with other members. The UAE is the first Arab-Islamic country to join the organization (<http://bit.ly/2BSTmXh>).

Spacewatch Middle East, 7 December 2017. "The UAE's Vice President, Prime Minister, and Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, has launched the **UAE's first astronaut program** dedicated to selecting and training four Emirati astronauts on various space missions so

they can head to the International Space Station within the next five years” (<http://bit.ly/2kvNCc8>).

Spacewatch Middle East, 30 November 2017. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, reportedly agreed to “think about Russia’s offer to have the UAE sign up to the **GLONASS** positioning, navigation, and timing satellite navigation constellation” (<http://bit.ly/2BI00x0>).

Al Defaiya, 17 November 2017. “The UAE Space Agency has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **German Aerospace Centre** to collaborate on exchanging information and expertise in the fields of space science, research, technology, and regulation” (<http://bit.ly/2iDNtID>).

Jane’s Defence Weekly, 14 November 2017. **Leonardo** and UAE-based MVP Tech have agreed to cooperate on cybersecurity. The joint offer includes “risk management, analysis and prevention and systems design, security system implementation and certification” (<http://bit.ly/2jwqdGY>).

Critical Infrastructure Protection and Border Security

Bahrain

Reuters, 11 November 2017. “Bahrain said an explosion which caused a **fire** at its main **oil pipeline** on (10 November 2017) was caused by ‘terrorist’ sabotage, linking the unprecedented attack to its arch-foe Iran, which denies any role in the Gulf island kingdom’s unrest” (<http://reut.rs/2iHhLnJ>).

Saudi Arabia

Reuters, 6 December 2017. **General Dynamics** has been contracted by Saudi Aramco to install integrated security systems for nine **offshore facilities**. No contract value was provided, but Reuters wrote that Raytheon, Rheinmetall and Leonardo Selex EX Saudi Arabia had also submitted bids for the contract (<http://reut.rs/2nyrFgH>).

United Arab Emirates

Jane’s Defence Weekly, 4 December 2017. Rebels in Yemen claimed to have carry out an attack on the UAE’s Barakah **nuclear plant** with a long-range cruise missile, but the National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority in Abu Dhabi has denied the attack (<http://bit.ly/2kzCKg9>).

About the ADIP News Bulletin

The Arab Defense Industry Papers (ADIP) is a new professional series focusing on the role of the defense industry in Algeria Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates. The focus of the series is on the establishment of national defense industrial bases in these countries and joint collaborative defense projects as well as defense exports. The ADIP News Bulletin complements the analytical papers by providing information about current and upcoming developments relevant for the Arab defense industrial establishment. The ADIP News Bulletin is available by subscription. ADIP and the ADIP News Bulletin are joint initiatives of Borchert Consulting & Research AG and Verocy. For more information about ADIP, see: <http://www.arabdefenseindustry.com>.

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