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# Arab Defense Industry Papers News Bulletin

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## The Big Picture

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### Egypt

*Reuters, 22 August 2017.* “The **United States** has decided to **deny Egypt \$95.7 million in aid and to delay a further \$195 million** because of its failure to make progress on respecting human rights and democratic norms (...). The decision reflects a U.S. desire to continue security cooperation as well as frustration with Cairo's stance on civil liberties” (<http://reut.rs/2vfhj4q>)

### Iran

*Al Defaiya, 23 August 2017.* Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has appointed MG Abdolrahim **Moussavi** as the **Commander of the Iranian Army** and MG Salehi as Deputy Chief of Staff of Iran's Armed Forces (<http://bit.ly/2wBeVJZ>)

*Defense News 22 August 2017; Jane's Risk Daily Report, 14 August 2017.* On 8 August 2017 Iran's President Hassan Rouhani has submitted “nominations for his **second cabinet** to parliament for approval. (...). Rouhani appointed Artesh (regular army) Brigadier-General Amir Hatami as minister of defence, a post that has been filled for the past two decades by Iran's parallel and more powerful military force, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC).” On 20 August 2017 Iranian lawmakers **approved Hatami as the new defense minister** (<http://bit.ly/2wr7rZm>; <http://bit.ly/2xxLxAL>)

*Jane's Defence Weekly, 17 August 2017.* The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) will “continue to **patrol Iran's air defense identification zone**” on a daily basis with UAV, in particular to monitor U.S. aircraft carriers in the Arabian Gulf. This statement comes amid complaints by the 5th Fleet of the U.S. Navy because of “unsafe and unprofessional approaches” to U.S. carriers by Iranian UAV (<http://bit.ly/2vs3WNX>)

*Al Defaiya, 15 August 2017.* In response to new U.S. sanctions, the Iranian Parliament has adopted a bill requiring the Defense Ministry and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Aerospace Force to “sent their executive plans to **reinvigorate the country's defense and deterrence power** in area of missile technology within a month to be approved by the Supreme National Security Council” (<http://bit.ly/2w1exmu>)

### **Iraq**

*AlBawaba, 15 August 2017.* Iraq's Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi is said to have **turned down** a demarche by Bahrain to **join** “the Saudi-led diplomatic and economic offensive aimed at Doha” (<http://bit.ly/2vXnoGD>)

### **Jordan**

*Al Defaiya, 16 August 2017.* Jordan's Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II graduated from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst like his father, King Abdullah, his grandfather late King Hussein, and his great-grandfather late King Talal (<http://bit.ly/2wBp6Oy>)

### **Saudi Arabia**

*Reuters, 23 August 2017.* “**Iran and Saudi Arabia** will exchange **diplomatic visits** soon, Tehran said, indicating a possible thaw in relations between the regional rivals (...)” (<http://reut.rs/2wyGun9>)

### **Syria**

*Jane's Defence Weekly, 18 August 2017.* “Teams of **British soldiers training Syrian rebels** to fight the Islamic State have been **withdrawn from Turkey** and Jordan, a senior defence source knowledgeable about the controversial project has told Jane's (<http://bit.ly/2v94VXZ>)

### **Turkey**

*Jane's Defence Weekly, 22 August 2017.* “The Turkish government's latest round of appointments to various command positions (...) have caused **further discontent within the Turkish Armed Forces (TSK)** (as) seven unnamed generals and admirals requested voluntary retirement from the TSK prior to the latest appointments on 20 August” (<http://bit.ly/2vrW1Qn>)

*Reuters, 17 August 2017.* **Turkey and Iran are to boost military cooperation**, Ibrahim Kalin, spokesman of Turkish President Erdogan, told the media after Iran's military chief General Mohammed Bageri spent a two-day visit in

Turkey. Kalin said "an agreement was reached to hold further high-level visits," but did not provide further details (<http://reut.rs/2uSXEqV>)

### United Arab Emirates

*Al Defaiya*, 10 August 2017. "Major General Obaid Rashid Al Hossan Al Shamsi, Head of the Executive Directorate of Strategic Analysis at the UAE Ministry of Defense, has met with Samuel Tan Chi Tse, Ambassador of the Republic of **Singapore** to the UAE, where the two sides discussed **bilateral relations** and ways to strengthen them" (<http://bit.ly/2w7ZRjM>)

## Defense Industry

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### Israel

*Defense News*, 24 August 2017. Epsilon-Electric Fuel and the Israeli Ministry of Defense have developed advanced, rechargeable lithium-ion batteries to replace traditional lead-acid batteries used in Israel's Merkava tanks. The new batteries are about to be tested in field trials (<http://bit.ly/2wLIWpF>)

*Jane's Missiles & Rockets*, 14 August 2017. IAI and the MAFAT Defense Research and Development authority of Israel "have launched concept studies for a **future upper-tier missile defense interceptor**" that looks beyond Arrow-2 (against ballistic missiles) and Arrow-3 (against targets in space) (<http://bit.ly/2xfzWXw>)

### Iran

*Al Defaiya*, 16 August 2017. According to General Massoud Rouzkhosh, Commander of the Shahid Babayee airbase, "**new missiles and weapons** have been successfully tested on F-7 fighter jets" (<http://bit.ly/2w1md8h>)

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 13 August 2017. "**Russian Helicopters** announced on 9 August that it was to begin usability testing of the Kamov Ka-226T 'Hoodlum-C' in Iran" to test the platform's performance in temperatures up to 50°C (<http://bit.ly/2ivhtII>)

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 9 August 2017. "Iran's first **Fateh-class submarine** will formally join the navy during Holy Defence Week in September, the Iranian Ministry of Defence cited Admiral Amir Rastegari, the head of the its marine industries, as saying on 6 August" (<http://bit.ly/2w7Qv7M>)

### Saudi Arabia

*Gulf Business*, 15 August 2017. Saudi Arabia has established the new **General Authority for Military Industries** as the main "go to" agency for all issues related to defense industrial strategy making, procurement, issuing manufacturing licenses, developing defense industrial skillsets, managing research and development, and transferring technology to local manufacturers (<http://bit.ly/2wKYLdv>)

*Arabian Aerospace, 10 August 2017.* Kurt **Amend** has been appointed as the new **CEO of Raytheon Arabia**. Previously he had been serving as President of Raytheon International in Riyadh (<http://bit.ly/2w5j5Zk>)

### Turkey

*IHS Jane's Missiles & Rockets, 23 August 2017.* Following successful qualification tests earlier this year, Roketsan "has begun serial production of the UMTAS imaging infrared (**UMTAS-IIR**) variant, long-range anti-tank guided missile (<http://bit.ly/2itw7e4>)

### United Arab Emirates

*Trade Arabia, 15 August 2017.* **Tawazun Economic Council** has appointed Tareq Abdul **Rahmee al Hosni** as **new CEO**. Prior to his new function he was Deputy Director General at the National Electronic Security Authority (<http://bit.ly/2vHmnQj>)

*Jane's International Defence Review, 7 August 2017.* "Representatives of UAE-based NIMR have confirmed to *Jane's* that the ability for its **Rapid Intervention Vehicle (RIV) to be air transportable by a CH-47 helicopter** is in response to the requirement for the platform to be interoperable and deployable as part of coalition operations, including with Gulf neighbour states operating large fleets of Chinook helicopters, such as Saudi Arabia" (<http://bit.ly/2w7BN0g>)

*Jane's International Defence Review, 7 August 2017.* The UAE Armed Forces have received an initial batch of **protected ambulance vehicles** developed by **NIMR Automotive**. Around 27 vehicles out of 45 ordered vehicles have been delivered so far (<http://bit.ly/2v9k6QY>)

## Defense Exports

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### United Arab Emirates

*Jane's International Defence Review, 7 August 2017.* "Representatives of UAE-based NIMR have confirmed to *Jane's* that the (...) **Rapid Intervention Vehicle (RIV)** is (...) being marketed for potential eastern European customers and *Jane's* understands that NIMR is currently **negotiating a contract with an undisclosed European country** for one of its vehicle designs" (<http://bit.ly/2w7BN0g>)

## Defense Modernization and Support

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### Iraq

*Defense Security Cooperation Agency, 1 August 2017.* Iraq is to receive Follow-On Technical Support by **Swiftships, LLC**, for "U.S. origin Navy vessels and a ship repair facility" worth US\$150M (<http://bit.ly/2hmSWzB>)

### Lebanon

*Defence Blog, 14 August 2017.* The Lebanese Army received **eight out of a total of 32 Bradley fighting vehicles donated by the United States**. The remaining vehicles will follow over the next months, U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Elizabeth Richard said on 14 August 2017 (<http://bit.ly/2vXn5vt>)

## Defense Procurement

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### Egypt

*Egypt Independent, 8 August 2017.* Egypt has received the **second** out of four **submarines** from thyssenkrupp Marine Systems. The crew was trained in Egypt and Germany. The handover ceremony took place in Kiel, Germany, on 8 August 2017 (<http://bit.ly/2uo7YLy>)

### Qatar

*Anadolu Agency, 23 August 2017; Russian Ministry of Defense, 23 August 2017.* During an official visit to Moscow, Khalid bin Mohammed al-Attiyah, Minister of State for Defense of **Qatar**, expressed his country's **interest in Russian air-defense** systems. "We want to bring production and technology of these (air-defense) systems to Qatar", he said. Demonstrations will include the **S-400 Triumph** and **Pantsyr-S** air-defense systems, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said in a press conference following the meeting with his Qatari counterpart (<http://bit.ly/2g57h3h>; <http://bit.ly/2viL0BV>)

*Arabian Aerospace, 8 August 2017.* Qatar Aeronautical College has placed an order for 10 single-engine DA40 NG and four DA42-VI twin-engine aircraft with the Austrian **Diamond Aircraft** (<http://bit.ly/2uFCjBi>)

*Reuters, 2 August 2017.* Italy has bagged another **naval contract** from Qatar worth €5bn for seven naval vessels, Qatar's Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani announced on 2 August 2017. Together with the 2016 contract, Italy now has naval contracts worth €9bn on order from Qatar (<http://bit.ly/2ujF5va>)

### Turkey

*Quwa, 9 August 2017.* Turkey's **BMC** has received an order for **529 tactical wheeled armored vehicles** from the country's Undersecretariat for Defense Industries, SSM. The contract is worth US\$350M (<http://bit.ly/2w5yc4Y>)

*Al Monitor, 1 August 2017.* **Doubts emerge** on the value of the **S-400** deal between Turkey and Russia, as analysts indicate that Turkey is unlikely to receive the system before 2020. Transfer of technology might also be limited as "the order volume is too small, and the import of technologies will require a long-term agreement, which is clearly not there", says Mikhail Barabanov of the Center for Analysis of Strategies and Technologies, Moscow (<http://bit.ly/2hnJmMz>)

## Military Cooperation and Training

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### Bahrain

*Al Defaiya*, 10 August 2017. "Bahrain's National Guard's Director-of-Staff, Major General Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Saud Al Khalifa, received **Kuwait's** Military Attaché to the Kingdom, Major General Ali Suleiman Al-Asaker," to discuss ongoing military cooperation (<http://bit.ly/2v9xzYX>)

### Qatar

*Quwa*, 21 August 2017. The Qatar Armed Forces and **Havelsan** have signed a \$40M contract for the supply of a **Joint Warfare Center** including maintenance support for three years (<http://bit.ly/2wACcM5>)

*Al Defaiya*, 7 August 2017. **Turkish and Qatari armed forces** have concluded a joint exercise on 7 August 2017. "The **naval exercises** took place in Hamad Port, Doha Naval Base and Qatari territorial waters. The exercises were conducted as part of military cooperation agreements between Turkey and Qatar in the fight against extremism and terrorism" (<http://bit.ly/2xfBzVb>)

### Saudi Arabia

*Al Defaiya*, 14 August 2017. "Nearly 100 Saudi and U.S. troops gathered for the closing ceremony of the Earnest Leader 17 exercise, held at the Northwest Area Command's Tactical Training Center near Tabuk, August 1 through 10. Earnest Leader is an **annual military to military exercise**, conducted with Royal Saudi Land Forces and U.S. Army personnel to promote military cooperation, peacekeeping and participation in regional security programs" (<http://bit.ly/2wrcucg>)

*Al Defaiya*, 3 August 2017. Saudi **Crown Prince** and Defense Minister Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz has received **Bahrain's King** Hamad bin Isha Al Khalifa to discuss bilateral relations. According to press reports "King Hamad affirmed his country's support for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia against all forms of terrorism and against all those who support and finance it" (<http://bit.ly/2wBlkoq>)

## Cybersecurity and Space

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### Iran

*Financial Tribune*, 16 August 2017; *Spacewatch Middle East*, 2 August 2017. Mahmoud **Vaezi**, Minister of Communications and Information Technology in Iran and responsible for the country's space portfolio, is to step down. His successor is Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi. Jahromi, who is 35 years old, was Vaezi's Deputy. He served as General Manager of the Communications Security Department at the Communication Regulatory Authority and non-executive board member of Rightel, an Iranian mobile network operator (<http://bit.ly/2xxUs4X>; <http://bit.ly/2wIZZIT>)

### Saudi Arabia

*Spacewatch Middle East, 14 August 2017.* "A team of engineers and technicians at Lockheed Martin has completed the integration of the company's first **modernised A2100 satellite**. The spacecraft, known as Hellas-Sat-4/SaudiGeoSat-1, now moves into final assembly and testing, on track for launch in the second quarter of 2018." Among other functions the satellite, which was built for Arabsat and King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology offers "secure mode communications to customers in the Middle East, Africa, and Europe" (<http://bit.ly/2g7vOVy>)

### Turkey

*Quwa, 22 August 2017.* "Turkey has begun the prototype development and production phase of its first indigenously developed communication satellite, the **TÜRKSAT-6A**" The program valued \$170M was started in December 2014 (<http://bit.ly/2wAL6sP>)

#### 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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