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# SECURITY ASSISTANCE COMMUNITY

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

**APPROVAL AUTHORITY FOR OFFSHORE PROCUREMENT OF SAO VEHICLES REFERENCES** [The following is a reprint of SECDEF Washington DC message 021516Z Oct 98 subject as above.]

REFERENCES:

- A. P.L. 87-195, Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
- B. AR 1-75/OPNAVINST 4900.31G/AFR 400-45, Administrative and Logistical Support of Oversea Security Assistance Organizations (SAOs)
- C. SECDEF (USDP) 240602Z Jul 90, SUBJ: Change in statutes governing the purchase of foreign-manufactured and foreign-procured passenger motor vehicles for administrative purposes for an SAO.
  1. This message reviews the policy for the approval of offshore procurement of vehicles using security assistance funds.
  2. Section 636(I), Ref A, states that no security assistance (T-20) funds may be used to purchase SAO vehicles unless such vehicles are manufactured in the U.S. Where special circumstances exist, the President is authorized to waive this provision.
  3. Paragraphs 3-8, Ref B, states that requests for exception to the requirement to purchase U.S.- manufactured vehicles should be submitted through the unified commander to DSCA.
  4. Reference C noted that SECDEF had delegated the authority to approve offshore vehicle procurement requests to the director, DSCA, with the concurrence of the Departments of State and the Treasury. Such requests would be considered on a case-by-case basis, with personnel safety being the most compelling rationale for approval of such exceptions.
  5. There has been no change to the policy as stated in the reference cited above. Only the Director, DSCA, may approve an exception to the policy requiring the purchase of U.S.-manufactured vehicles. All such requests should include complete justification, with the security of SAO personnel continuing to be the most compelling reason for approval of an exception. Projected lower procurement and/or maintainability costs are not a sufficient reason for purchase of a foreign-made vehicle.
  6. DSCA POC: Mr. K. Eisenhardt, COMPT/RM, Commercial (703) 604-6551 or DSN 664-6551, FAX (703) 604-6536, e-mail [eisenhardt@osd.pentagon.mil](mailto:eisenhardt@osd.pentagon.mil).