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DISCUSSION PAPER

SUBJECT: Release of AIM-120 Advance Medium Range Air to Air Missile (AMRAAM) in the Middle East (C)

DOD DECISION: To release AMRAAM for sale throughout the Middle East to countries operating U.S.-origin advanced fighter aircraft—if and when the UAE decides to purchase a U.S. fighter.

- Release is critical to competitiveness of U.S. fighter.
- Sale is important for interoperability and access to UAE air force.
- Sale supports U.S. defense industrial base.
- Future threats require AMRAAM capability for survival.
- Similar capabilities will be available in region without USG control or influence.

— **RELEASE IS CONDITIONED ON UAE BUY:** AMRAAM will not be released to others in the Middle East (Israel, Egypt, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain) at this time absent a UAE sale.

• Underlying preference is not to release regardless of threat environment. Reluctance is overcome only by offsetting benefits of aircraft sale.

Do we tell Israel that Saudis, Egyptians, and other will not get AMRAAM if UAE doesn't buy?

HOW TO MAINTAIN ISRAEL'S QUALITATIVE EDGE (AND INDUCEMENTS NOT TO OPPOSED SALE TO UAE):

- Differentiated AMRAAM releases, timing.
- Cost impact of F-15/F16 sale to UAE on Israeli FMS program.
- Is UAE AMRAAM a threat to Israel? With and without CFTs.
- Other compensation.

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Authority: EO 13526
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Date: SEP 09 2015

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