

C-130J/C-130J-30 ACQUISITION

Background: The C-130J is the latest generation C-130 that incorporates a redesigned, two-crew member flight station, a modern technology propulsion system, and an integrated digital avionics subsystem. The program continues a modernization effort focused on eventually replacing aging C-130E aircraft. This is a Commercial Acquisition and SAF/AQ has directed the program to use commercial practices and to streamline all contract provisions. Congress appropriated \$209M in FY 97 NAREA for the acquisition of 4 C-130J's for the Air National Guard and \$226M in FY 98 NAREA for 4 additional J's. These 8 aircraft are currently being delivered to the 135th AW, Baltimore, MD. For FY 99 the ANG began an initiative to procure the C-130J-30, which is a stretched version of the basic J. Congress added \$192 million to the FY99 budget for three C-130J-30 aircraft for the Air National Guard. These first three aircraft are destined for the 143rd AW, Quonset Point, Rhode Island. FY 2001 appropriations provided funding for two aircraft for the 146th AW, Channel Islands, California. Five aircraft are required to complete the buy for Rhode Island and four to continue the conversion for California.

Documentation: Operational Requirements Document (ORD) #CAF (AMC) 005-91-IV/IIIA was approved 1 Aug. 95 by AF/CV. A Single Acquisition and Management Plan was approved by SAF/AQ on 13 May 1996.

Impacts If Not Funded: If future C-130J's and the associated spares and support equipment are not funded, the Air National Guard would have a mixed unit of J's and E's. The 143rd AW at Rhode Island would have 3 C-130J-30s and 5 C-130E's. The 146th AW at Channel Islands would have 2 C-130J-30s and 10 C-130Es This would have a severe impact on aircrew and maintenance training, logistics, and manpower. In addition, no funding future J model acquisitions would prevent modernization of the C-130E fleet.

Units Impacted: The ANG C-130J Roadmap identifies the following units for C-130J aircraft in the long term:

143 AW Rhode Island	146 AW California	189 AW Arkansas
152 AW Nevada	124 WG Idaho	127 WG Michigan
182 AW Illinois	193 SOW Pennsylvania	

Recommendation: The National Guard Association of the United States urges the Congress of the United States to authorize and appropriate \$290M in FY 2003 to procure four C-130J-30 aircraft, plus spares and support equipment for the Air National Guard.