

COMMITTEE LANGUAGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

ASPJ

HNSC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-132)

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AN/ALQ-165 airborne self-protection jammer (ASPJ)

The budget request contained \$32.9 million for common electronic countermeasures equipment, but did not include funding to procure the AN/ALQ-165 ASPJ for the F-14D or the F/A-18C/D aircraft.

The self-protection system installed on the F/A-18C/D, except those configured with the ASPJ for contingency operations, has no capability against pulse doppler or continuous wave radars that currently are the most widely deployed air-to-air and air-to-surface radar threats to tactical aircraft. The committee is aware that the Navy can only equip approximately 72 aircraft with the ASPJ, although it has a requirement for employment of this system on over 500 F-14Ds and F/A-18C/Ds. The committee understands that in order to meet its current deployment requirements in the Bosnia and Persian Gulf theaters, the Navy must remove the ASPJs from aircraft returning from these areas and install them on aircraft beginning deployment. Furthermore, as a result of this shortfall, ASPJs are not available to support training or other potential combat requirements. Accordingly, the committee recommends an increase of \$75.0 million for production of 50 AN/ALQ-165 ASPJs.

SASC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-29)

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Section 124. Airborne self-protection jammer program.

The statement of managers language accompanying the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997 (H. Rept. 104-724) noted that the fiscal year 1997 authorization for the procurement of 36 airborne self protection jammer (ASPJ) systems was intended to provide a contingency response capability, and did not reflect the conferees' commitment to additional procurement of ASPJ systems or to restarting series production for U.S. government customers at that time. Accordingly, the committee recommends a provision to end ASPJ procurement.

The committee recognizes the contribution that the ASPJ has made to the continuing mission in Bosnia. However, the committee does not support restarting serial production of the ASPJ due to its past testing failures and the nature of its rapidly aging technology. The committee instead encourages the Department to continue its efforts in the development of the integrated defensive electronics countermeasure (IDECM) system for the F/A-18E/F, and a spinoff capability for the F/A-18C/D to capitalize on emerging technology and commonality.

CASC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-340)

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Airborne self-protection jammer

The Senate amendment contained a provision (sec. 124) that would place a limitation on the resumption of serial production of the Airborne Self-Protection Jammer, pending a certification by the Secretary of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The Senate recesses.