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IAF, USAF greatly upgrade cooperation

By YAAKOV KATZ

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The [Israel](#) Air Force has significantly upgraded the level of its cooperation with the United States Air Force and now receives regular updates on American procurement decisions, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

An agreement on the cooperation was reached at meetings last month between head of IAF Procurement and Equipment Brig.-Gen. Dr. Kobi Bortman and senior USAF officers in Washington and Dayton, Ohio.

Bortman, an expert on aircraft structural engineering with a doctorate from Washington University in St. Louis, gave the Americans a demonstration of the IAF's Enterprise Resources Planning system. The system serves as a single database for both manpower and inventory lists and enables cost-effective maintenance of supplies and other resources.

The USAF, which briefed Bortman on its own new cost-saving system for keeping track of inventory, decided following the meeting to establish its own Enterprise Resources Planning database.

"We are interested in many of the same platforms and systems, and the Americans look at us as a small-scale laboratory of themselves," a high-ranking IAF officer told the *Post*. "Now every time the USAF signs a contract and purchases something new, they will update us."

The updates will only be given to Israel, the officer said, when America purchases a system or platform related to the IAF. An American delegation will come to Israel to meet with Bortman again toward the end of the year.

One issue of common interest for the IAF and USAF is the "J" model of Lockheed Martin's C-130 Hercules transport plane. Israel is considering purchasing the new model for its 40-year-old fleet of transport aircraft and in March submitted a Request for Information to Lockheed Martin to receive details on the J model's cost and performance.



C-130E Hercules from the 43d Airlift Wing of the United States Airforce [illustrative photo].

Photo: **Courtesy**

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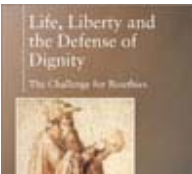
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India, Norway and [Canada](#) recently signed contracts to purchase the new aircraft.

The newest version of the Hercules, the J model is externally similar to the classic Hercules, but inside it is a different aircraft and includes new Rolls-Royce Allison AE21000 turboprops with six-bladed composite propellers and digital avionics, including heads-up displays for the pilots.

According to a top IAF officer, Israel would like to buy the new aircraft but is waiting to receive a price offer from Lockheed before it begins negotiations. The decision to buy the aircraft is also pending a decision in the General Staff.

The IAF is also considering sending its younger Hercules planes to Boeing Co. for an upgrade under the company's C-130 Avionics Modernization Program. In September, Boeing announced the first flight of a C-130 aircraft that had had its cockpit gutted and revamped to improve navigation and communication.

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- 72. I Like It**
Not Jewish - USA (06/24/2007 03:29)
- 71. to 67 Bob and others**
Steve Goldfarb - Israel (06/23/2007 10:39)
- 70. to the other Bob 67**
Steve Goldfarb - Israel (06/23/2007 10:30)
- 69. #55 Bob: Iran has submarines with sub-launched ballistic missiles and IRBMs capable of reaching well beyond Israel**
RickE USA - USA (06/22/2007 23:40)
- 68. Barnes**
W - (06/22/2007 23:21)
- 67. # 63 Steve Goldfarb**
The other Bob - USA (06/22/2007 22:07)
- 66. It ain t happened yet.**
Dick de Freak - Free Flanders (06/22/2007 21:56)
- 65. O Israel don't trust the US but Almighty he wan't let you**
Nick - (06/22/2007 21:51)
- 64. Steve, #62 - Had you ever heard about missiles a smeans of coveying nuclear messages over the head of enemy countries and all?**
DB - (06/22/2007 21:36)
- 63. to the other Bob**
Steve Goldfarb - Israel (06/22/2007 19:54)
- 62. to 48 Enzo**
Steve Goldfarb - Israel (06/22/2007 19:46)
- 61. Expected intensification of relationships between the two countries**
DB - (06/22/2007 18:20)
- 60. # 8 Barnes**
The other Bob - USA (06/22/2007 17:57)
- 59. 3. israel will find a way**
The other Bob - USA (06/22/2007 17:55)
- 58. # 28 IAF training ...**
The other Bob - USA (06/22/2007 17:38)
- 57. Barnes**
W - (06/22/2007 17:36)
- 56. 12. Pathetic once again**
The other Bob - USA (06/22/2007 17:31)



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55. # 53 smoke and mirrors
The other Bob - USA (06/22/2007 17:11)

54. Purchase?
Joe - USA (06/22/2007 15:55)

53. This is all smoke and mirrors to pressure Iran and misdirect its defense establishment: Israel will not attack; but George will!
RickE USA - USA (06/22/2007 15:15)

52. Thid id psych warfare it will be either alone not together!
r - (06/22/2007 14:59)

51. Impose a no fly zone over Iran
arun - (06/22/2007 14:42)

50. steven goldfarb
ira berkowitz - usa (06/22/2007 14:39)

49. IAF Training
Leslie - England (06/22/2007 14:34)

48. #39 S. Goldfarb
Enzo Nahum - Italy (06/22/2007 14:13)

47. Why haven't we sent Iran the plans?
Pete Kusnick - (06/22/2007 13:52)

46. to 12
trueman - uk (06/22/2007 13:49)

45. attck them by thousands strong missiles.
Sulaiman - Uae (06/22/2007 13:47)

44. Try the Jerusalem Post for treason!
S. Lewis - Israel (06/22/2007 13:31)

43. telegraphing war?
keith - usa (06/22/2007 13:22)

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