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■ IRT 02:07 AM

Iran says it has not received a req

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## US set to sell F-35s to Israel

Wed, 01 Oct 2008 01:59:19 GMT

### The Pentagon's Defense Security Cooperation Agency has approved the sale of 25 F-35 fighter jets to Israel with an option for another 50.

The DSCA issued a statement saying that the contract is meant to help Israel "develop a strong and ready self-defense capability," the Israeli military intelligence website Debkafile reported on Tuesday.

"The total value, if all options are exercised, could be as high as 15.2 billion dollars," the statement added.

Israel is the first foreign nation to receive the state-of-the-art Lockheed Martin F-35 fighter jet, which will replace its older F-16 fighters.

Israeli officials have declared they plan to buy 100 fighters over the next decade.

US and Israeli officials reached an agreement on the delivery of the fighter jets to Israel in a meeting in Washington this month, Debkafile reported.

The DSCA has informed the US Congress about the proposed contract and it has 30 days to raise any objections to the sale.

MGH/PA/HGL

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F-35 Strike Fighter

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- It would save the US economy
- Capitalism has failed and no plan will save the US economy
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