



**PC to Phone** **1¢/min**



Arts by Google

www.vbuzzer.com

**HIGHLIGHTS**[Make Noise!](#)

Justin Raimondo: it's the only way to get their attention

[Risking the Unthinkable](#)

Charles Peña on a movie about terror and torture

[Our Own Holy War](#)

Robert Koehler on the US' truly holy atrocities

**BREAKING NEWS**[Gates 'Encouraged' by Afghan Escalation](#)

Cites 'general feeling' that things are going well

[Israel OKs Major US 'Gift' of Warplanes](#)

US paying the bill, but Israel officials still debate 'cost'

[Cameron Faces Revolt Over Nuke Delay](#)

Defense Secretary reportedly may resign over budget cuts

**ANTIWAR RADIO**[Wikileaks vs. The Complex](#)

Nick Turse on the site that's changing everything

[Petraeus's 'Success' in Iraq](#)

Gareth Porter on the war for Ayatollah Sistani

[Islam Ain't So Bad](#)

Juan Cole compares the hype to the truth



- [Home](#)
- [About Antiwar.com](#)
- [Donate](#)
- [Blog](#)
- [US Casualties](#)
- [Contact](#)
- [Latest News](#)
- [Letters](#)

**[Israel OKs US 'Gift' of Billions of Dollars in Warplanes](#)****Despite US Paying for Them, Cost Sparked Debate Among Israeli Defense Officials**

by Jason Ditz, September 16, 2010

[Email This](#) | [Print This](#) | [Share This](#) | [Antiwar Forum](#)

Israeli government officials confirmed today that they will go ahead with plans to “buy” a number of F-35 stealth fighter jets from US military contractor Lockheed Martin. [Reports suggest the deal will be worth \\$2.75 billion, making it one of the largest single arms purchases ever.](#)

The high cost of the F-35s made the deal controversial among Israeli defense officials, which is perhaps surprising inasmuch as the Israeli government won't actually be paying a dime for the warplanes.

[Rather the entire cost will be covered by the US government in the form of military aid](#), meaning the US will be paying Lockheed directly and delivering the warplanes to Israel for free.

The F-35's enormous costs have made it hugely controversial in the US as well, though the question of giving Israel a number of the planes does not appear to have been questioned at all. The planes are expected to be delivered in 2015, assuming development goes according to plans.

**Last 5 posts by Jason Ditz**

- [Taliban Kidnap Candidates, 30 Election Workers on Eve of Vote](#) - September 17th, 2010
- [Top Iraqiya Official: Govt Deal Will Have Abdulmahdi as PM](#) - September 17th, 2010
- [NATO Troops Kill Two More Afghan Protesters at Quran Rally](#) - September 16th, 2010
- [Civilians Killed as AU Troops Shell Mogadishu Market](#) - September 16th, 2010
- [Cameron Faces Political Revolt Over Nuke Delay](#) - September 16th, 2010

[Email This](#) | [Print This](#) | [Share This](#) | [Send a letter to the editor](#) | [Letters](#) | [Antiwar Forum](#)