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Czech Defence Procurements



The primary mission of the Czech army is to ensure the military defence of the country against aggression and to meet commitments derived from international obligations and treaties of the Czech Republic on collective defence. In order to achieve this, the country's authorities allocated for the year 2012, (3,206.5)

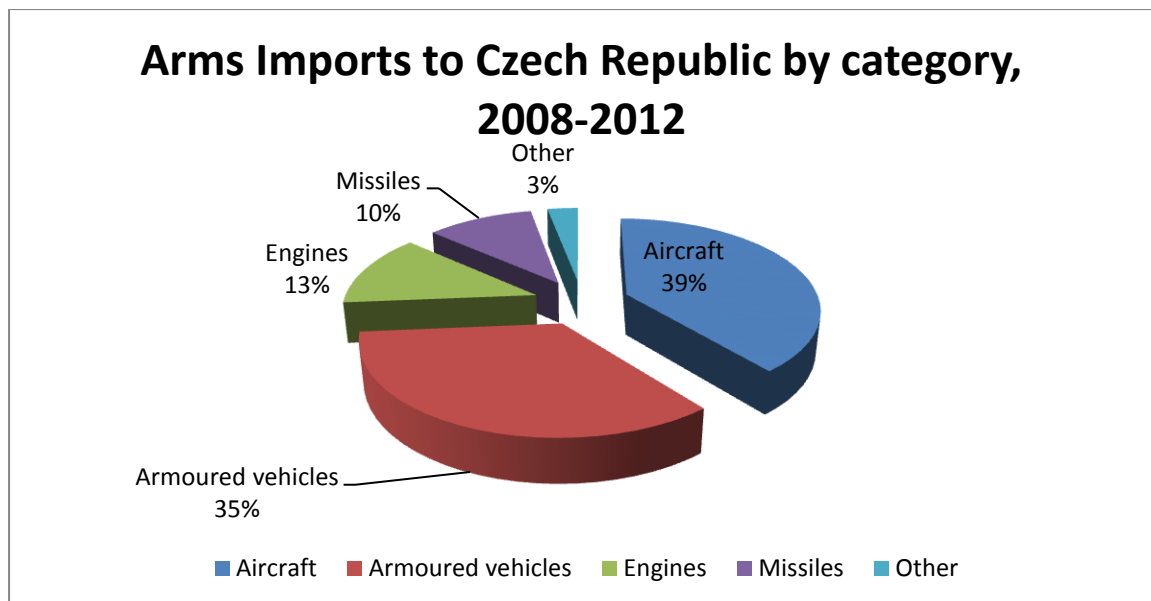
million Czech Crowns. With this amount they purchased a variety of defence equipment. Spain has a leading role in the Czech armament imports. Apart from the European country, other important countries that export arms to Czech Republic, for the period 2008-2012, are Austria, USA, Italy, Canada, Germany and Norway. Spanish armament imports are rather limited in their geographical preference as the majority of the first seven countries that export arms to the county, based on the amount of funds allocated, are European.

Imports (expressed in US\$ m. at constant 1990 prices)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Austria		5	8	9	8	29
Canada				8		8
Germany	5					5
Italy	3		2	3	5	12
Norway	1		1	1	2	4
Spain				52		52
USA	14	1	2	3	2	23

Source: SIPRI Publications, Arms Transfers Database

Aircraft were the predominant area of imports for the period 2008-2012 with a total amount of 52 US\$ m. at constant (1990) prices. The 2<sup>nd</sup> most important sector is that of armored vehicles with 46 US\$ m. at constant (1990) prices whereas other areas such as engines, and missiles follow.



Spain is in the first place of arm exports to Czech Republic mainly due to the fact that the country's Army procured (4) C-295 transport aircraft for a total amount of 3.5 billion Czech Crowns. The procurement included an offset deal of 100-300% of the total funds spent.

Kyriazis Vasileios,

Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

## International Missions of Czech Armed Forces



Czech Republic participates in international missions since 1990. It was on 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, 1990 when the Federal Assembly of the Parliament of the (former) Czech and Slovak Federal Republic made

the decision to send a Czechoslovak Chemical Unit to the Persian Gulf region in order to join the anti-Iraqi U.S.-led coalition force set to free the State of Kuwait. Based on that decision, the Czechoslovak military sent 200 soldiers-volunteers to Saudi Arabia during December 11 - 14, 1990. Since then the country has been participating in several international missions, amongst others to NATO's ISAF Operation in Afghanistan, to NATO's Operation "Joint Enterprise" in Kosovo and to the EU's Operation - EU-NAVFOR - "ATALANTA" in Somalia.

Czech Republic operates in the Afghanistan mission with the following contingents:

**ACR Task Force ISAF:** The Czech Armed Forces Task Force in ISAF operation is an organizational unit, whose commander directly commands Czech units deployed at the Kabul International Airport and administratively controls the rest of Czech units serving elsewhere in Afghanistan on ISAF operation.

**Military Advisory Team in Logar and in Wardak:** the main task of the contingent is to advise command staff and personnel of the Afghan National Army in order to provide professional growth in command and planning procedures.

Additionally, the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic have participated in the NATO's Operation "Joint Enterprise" in Kosovo since 1999, originally with a reconnaissance company followed by a mechanized unit.



The country's armed forces also participate in the EUNAVFOR Anti-Piracy Operation mission in Somalia. The first group of three Czech military officers joined the Operation Headquarters in Northwood in April 2010 and at the end of July 2010 it was replaced by the second group. The third group served in Northwood from February to August 2011, and the fourth is now on duty.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 the armed forces of Czech Republic returned to Bosnia and Herzegovina participating in the European Union mission. Currently there are two personnel from the Czech Republic which will focus initially on providing training and capacity building support to the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Additionally, the country's armed forces participate in the European Union Training Mission (EU TM) in Mali. The primary mission of 34 Czech soldiers, who moved to Bamako during March 14 – 16, 2013, is to contribute to training of Malian Army and equip its units with Czech small arms and generators. The Czech participation in the mission is planned for 15 months and the size of the unit can be increased up to 50 soldiers.

Three military officers of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic have been serving in the Sinai since November 2009, supervising the 1979 Treaty of Peace between Egypt and Israel. The Czech staff officers serve at the following positions: Assistant Chief of Staff (Lieutenant Colonel), Deputy Force Protection Information Officer (Major) and Force Engineering Staff Officer (Captain) at the El Gorah base (MFO North Camp) in the north of the Sinai, some 20 kilometers from the shore of the Mediterranean Sea.

Finally, Czech Republic has deployed military observers in several missions. There are five Czech military observers in the following missions at present:

- 3 in DR Congo (MONUSCO)
- 1 in Kosovo (UNMIK)
- 1 in Afghanistan (UNAMA)

**Epicos “Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects”**

Epicos “Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects” provides a unique set of online tools enabling the structure, identification and implementation of comprehensive Offsets programs, through a searchable database. By introducing different offset projects and ideas proposed by local A&D industry it ensures the optimum cost for Prime Contractors and reassures that the priorities of local industry are fully met...

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**Design and Development of a UAV Nuclear Reconnaissance System**

A large company with significant experience in the development and production of chemical defense instruments and nuclear reconnaissance systems, is proposing collaboration with a company specializing in the design and production of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in order to develop a UAV nuclear reconnaissance system. Fields of application could be: reconnaissance of widely

contaminated areas; localization of single radiation sources; nuclear accidents; atomic explosion.

[For Further Information Contact our ICO Department](#)

Mail at: [g-menexis@epicos.com](mailto:g-menexis@epicos.com)

**Development of a tethered aerostat system for surveillance and reconnaissance purposes**

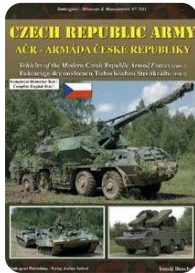
A company with core competencies in Intelligence Surveillance & Reconnaissance (ISR), offering related consultancy services and training programs, wants to extend its business line with the development of a tethered aerostat system for reconnaissance and surveillance purposes. The company is seeking potential partners for the development, enhancement and / or marketing of the system.

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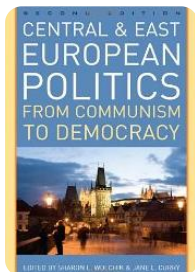


### **Czech Republic Army: Vehicles of the Modern Czech Republic Armed Forces, Part 2 (Missions and Manoeuvres 11)**



After the fall of the communist regime Czech armed forces underwent a transformation. This transformation, changed Czech Army from the spearhead of the Warsaw Pact into a modern NATO army generated a unique combination of military vehicle types. This motorpool comprises of Soviet vehicles, vehicles of Czech production and now western material, all forged into a new highly professional armed force. This two-part publication describes for the first time the current ACR vehicle pool in hitherto unpublished photographs.

### **Central and East European Politics: From Communism to Democracy, by Sharon L. Wolchik, Jane L. Curry**



In the beginning of New Millennium several new countries from central and Eastern Europe were integrated in the international institutions of west. This essential text explores the new and future members of the European Union along with the problems and potential they bring to the region and to the world stage. Clear and comprehensive, it offers an authoritative and up-to-date analysis of the transformations and realities in Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltics, and Ukraine. Divided into two parts, the book presents a set of comparative country case studies as well as thematic chapters on key issues, including EU and NATO expansion, the economic transition and its social ramifications, and political reform.



### Boeing launches new Dreamliner with over 100 orders

Boeing launched a bigger version of its next-generation 787 Dreamliner at the Paris Air Show on Tuesday with more than 100 orders from airlines and leasing groups around the world.

"Boeing today officially launches the 787-10," Boeing head Jim McNerney told reporters, with commitments to buy the new aircraft from United Airlines, Singapore Airlines, British Airways, and leasing firms ALC and GECAS.

The announcement puts Boeing firmly back in the running after a slew of recent technical problems forced the grounding of the entire Dreamliner fleet worldwide for three months in a huge blow to the US firm.

The 787-10 is bigger than its two brothers in the Dreamliner family, and Singapore Airlines and ALC were its two biggest customers, with 30 orders each. United has committed to buying 20 planes while British Airways will get 12.

The news comes as the Paris Air Show -- the world's biggest -- enters its second day with competition between Boeing and its arch-rival Airbus heating up.

Low-cost airline easyJet earlier announced a deal to buy 135 of the European plane maker's single-aisle A320 passenger planes -- one of Airbus's most popular and lucrative models -- including 100 of new generation neo aircraft.

While it has won more than half of the market for medium-haul, single-aisle planes, Airbus is seeking to unseat Boeing in the more lucrative long-haul segment with its own next-generation A350 plane, which went on its first test flight Friday.

The aircraft -- which like the Dreamliner makes extensive use of lighter, carbon-based composite materials that reduce fuel consumption -- will seek to compete with the 787 as well as Boeing's older 777 model.

**Source:** 2013 AFP, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

### Airbus superjumbo gets huge lift from Doric order

European aircraft maker Airbus made a big breakthrough for its flagship A380 superjumbo airliner on Monday, taking the first order for the plane this year after a setback over cracks in the wings.



The provisional order, for 20 superjumbos worth about \$8.0 billion (6.0 billion euros) at list prices, came from Doric Asset Finance, a leasing group which will make the A380 giant accessible to many airlines via rental agreements.

The order puts Airbus on track to achieve its target of 25 deals for the superjumbo this year, after falling far short of its target last year

The deal, important for Airbus in its efforts to boost sales of the aircraft, the giant of the skies, comes just three days after another milestone, the maiden flight of its new long-range A350 aircraft.

Airbus head Fabrice Bregier told the Wall Street Journal newspaper on the opening of the Paris Air Show at Le Bourget on Monday that the firm hoped to more than double its operating profit in the next two years.

It intended to raise the operating margin from 4.0 percent to 10.0 percent, he said, adding that the target excluded the launch costs of the A350.

Last year was a difficult one for the A380 superjumbo because micro cracks were detected where the wings join the fuselage.

Airbus is correcting the problem, but the manufacturer had taken no orders for the A380 since the beginning of 2013, and last year it took nine orders instead of the targeted 30.

Leahy said that he was holding to a target of selling 25 A380 aircraft this year.

Boosting sales of the A380 is of particular importance to Airbus, which said in a statement that with this investment Doric would be able to offer the aircraft on tailor-made terms for airlines.

This would facilitate use of the plane by airlines around the world, Airbus said.

Doric Asset Finance has provided finance for orders by airlines such as Emirates and Singapore Airlines.

Under leasing arrangements, an airline enters into a rental agreement with the leasing company, thereby avoiding having to find the purchase capital from its own resources.

Airbus said that Doric was the third-biggest such company in the world, in terms of value, providing leasing arrangements for jumbo aircraft and was the biggest in terms of managing such deals for the A380.

Doric currently manages aircraft worth \$6.0 billion, including 18 A380 airliners purchased under sale and leaseback agreements, so the latest deal represents a substantial increase for the leasing group.

The latest agreement in principle, or outline deal, is expected to be confirmed in a few months' time, Leahy and the chief executive of Doric, Mark Lapidus told a press conference.

**Source:** 2013 AFP, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

### S. Korea opens bidding on \$7.3 bn fighter jet deal

South Korea formally opened bidding Tuesday on a \$7.3 billion deal to provide 60 advanced fighter planes, with three aviation giants vying for what is the Asian nation's largest defence contract to date.

US companies Boeing and Lockheed Martin and the European aerospace consortium EADS are in the running, and all have prefaced their bids with various sweeteners to try and edge out their rivals.

South Korea's Defence Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA), which will assess the bids, has made it clear that it cannot exceed the 8.3 trillion won (\$7.3 billion) budget approved by parliament.

The choice will be between Boeing's F-15 Silent Eagle, Lockheed Martin's F-35 Lightning II and the EADS Eurofighter Typhoon.

EADS has offered a \$2.0 billion investment in a separate South Korean project to develop its own advanced fighter jets, if the consortium is chosen.

Lockheed Martin offered to support South Korea's effort to develop and launch military communications satellites, while Boeing promised to buy billions of dollars in parts from Korean companies.

The bidding process is scheduled to last 11 days.

South Korea's military procurement needs, especially where the air force is concerned, have overwhelmingly been met by US suppliers in the past -- a reflection of their close military alliance.

But EADS' hopes were raised in January, when the Anglo-Italian company AgustaWestland beat out US defence giant Sikorsky for a \$567 million contract to supply six helicopters to the South Korean navy.

**Source:** 2013 AFP, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

### Ryanair investors approve purchase of 175 Boeing jets

Ryanair on Tuesday said that its shareholders had approved a deal by the Irish no-frills airline to purchase 175 Boeing 737-800 aircraft worth \$15.6 billion (11.7 billion euros) at list prices.

The Dublin-based carrier added in a brief statement that the aircraft would be delivered over a five-year period from 2014 to 2018. Ryanair had unveiled the deal back in March.

Tuesday's announcement came on the same day that British low-cost rival easyJet announced a mega deal to buy 135 Airbus single-aisle A320 passenger planes for \$11.9 billion after agreeing big discounts.

EasyJet revealed the news amid the Paris Air Show, where European aircraft maker Airbus is battling for orders with US rival Boeing.

**Source:** 2013 AFP, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

### **Afghan forces take over security from NATO**

Afghan forces took control of security across the country on Tuesday, marking a major milestone as US-led combat troops prepare to withdraw after 12 years of fighting the Taliban.

Speaking at a military academy outside Kabul, President Hamid Karzai said the police and army were ready to take on insurgents, but a bomb in the city underlined persistent instability.

Three civilians were killed in the attack, which targeted a prominent lawmaker as his convoy travelled to parliament just before the handover ceremony began.

"Our security and defence forces will now be in the lead," Karzai told Afghan and NATO officials at the event, the timing and location of which had been kept secret due to fears of a militant attack.

"From here, all security responsibility and all security leadership will be taken by our brave forces," he said.

Doubts remain over the ability of Afghan forces to beat the Taliban, and the NATO military coalition will retain an important function in logistics and air support as well as in combat emergencies.

NATO chief Anders Fogh Rasmussen said that by taking the lead in security, Afghan forces were completing a five-stage transition process that began in March 2011.

"They are doing so with remarkable resolve," he said. "Ten years ago, there were no Afghan national security forces... now you have 350,000 Afghan troops and police, a formidable force," he said.

"We will continue to help Afghan troops in operations if needed, but we will no longer plan, execute or lead those operations, and by the end of 2014 our combat mission will be completed."

Karzai used his speech to give a boost to peace efforts, saying that government envoys would travel to the Gulf state of Qatar to try to open negotiations with the Taliban.

"Our High Peace Council will go to Qatar, they will talk to the Taliban," the president said.

"We hope that with the opening (of a Taliban office in Qatar)... the peace talks between the HPC and the Taliban start as soon as possible."

The handover of the last 95 districts from NATO to Afghan control includes areas in the south and east where the Taliban have concentrated their bloody insurgency since 2001.

As Afghan soldiers and police take over the fight against the militants, who were ousted from power after the 9/11 attacks, the 100,000 NATO troops will focus on training and mentoring roles.

Recent attacks have demonstrated the Taliban's ability to strike at Kabul as the country prepares for presidential elections next year and the NATO withdrawal by the end of 2014.

"The reality is Afghan forces are not dreadful, but they're probably not sufficiently capable to drive the war to a conclusion," Stephen Biddle, professor of international affairs at George Washington University, told AFP.

"My guess is they will be able to maintain the stalemate, provided the US pays their bills."

Haji Mohammad Mohaqiq, a leader of the ethnic Hazara minority who is likely to play a key role in April's presidential vote, was unhurt in Tuesday's bomb attack but his clothes were burnt.

"Four of my guards are wounded and are in hospital," he told AFP. "I heard a big explosion on the side of the car. Only my cloak is a little burned, other than that I'm fine."

Mohammad Zahir, the police investigations chief in Kabul, told reporters at the scene that three civilians were killed and 24 others, including some guards, were wounded when the improvised explosive device detonated.

On Tuesday last week, a suicide car bomb killed 15 civilians outside the Supreme Court in Kabul. The previous day, gunmen fired grenades at the city airport and late last month an international aid group's compound was targeted in a seven-hour battle.

Despite the attacks penetrating the capital's defences, the effective response of elite Afghan security units has been widely hailed as a sign of increasing professionalism.

Concern over the Afghan forces' capacity have been fuelled by high rates of desertion and fears for the future of foreign aid post-2014.

On Friday, the US commander of the NATO mission in Afghanistan warned that gains secured over the last 12 years would be lost if donor nations cut back support after the foreign withdrawal.

"We are not where we need to be yet," US General Joseph Dunford told foreign journalists.

"The continued presence of the international community -- politically, in development and in security -- is necessary to sustain the progress that we have made."

**Source:** 2013 AFP, Agence France-Presse (AFP)