Lockheed Martin Canada Ltd.

ockheed Martin (LM) Canada is a subsidiary of Lockheed Martin, the world's biggest war industry. LM is also one of the top producers of the weapons systems that are being developed under the so-called "missile defense" program.

Lockheed Martin's contribution to the "missile defense" weapons development program includes overseeing a wide variety of major weapons systems including the following:

- land-based weapons known as Terminal High Altitude Area Defense,
- a sea-based missile system referred to as the AEGIS Combat System,
- space-based Beam Control System for laser weapons,
- the Flight Turret Assembly for laser weapons to be used aboard converted 747-400F aircraft.¹



AEGIS Combat System

For its part, LM Canada is contributing to its parent company's endeavours through the production of an interactive training and simulation system called VISTA. This computer-based product prepares military personnel to use the AEGIS Combat System. AEGIS is the backbone of the U.S. Navy's "missile defense" weapons program.

Military products are sometimes named after characters or objects from myths. The term "AEGIS" provides an illustration of this practice. The ancient Greek poet, Homer, described a magical shield called aegis that was possessed by Zeus and Athena. (See "Aegis was the Deadly Shield of the Rapacious God, Zeus,"pp. 24-25.) However, the term AEGIS has now been expropriated by the U.S. military and refers to a weapons system that masquerades as a defensive shield. The AEGIS missile system shelters under the protective term "missile defense." Nowadays, it is used not by Zeus, the god of all gods, but by the military of all militaries.

It is also often the case that the military, and their corporate allies, give fancy acronyms to their extremely deadly, high-tech, weapons systems. AEGIS is a classic case in point. This

Lockheed Martin Canada Awarded \$43-Million Contract for Canada's next Census

By Steve Lambert

The federal government has finalized a \$43.3-million deal that will see the 2006 census conducted with the help of the Canadian subsidiary of a U.S. weapons manufacturer.

Some peace groups and opposition politicians are concerned about taxpayer dollars' going to a weaponsbuilder. "There's a moral issue, I believe, in having an arms manufacturing industry...do our census data collection among citizens [whose] relatives... abroad...could be hurt [by Lockheed Martin weapons]," said New Democrat MP Brian Masse, of Windsor, Ontario.

"We're concerned about Lockheed Martin's advocacy of the Star Wars program of missile defence," said Darrell Rankin, an organizer with the No War Coalition in Manitoba. Lockheed Martin has worked to develop the space-based missile-defence system—dubbed Star Wars.

Critics fear some census information could make its way into the hands of the U.S. government.

They point to the U.S. Patriot Act, which was enacted following the terrorist attacks of 2001. It allows the FBI and other U.S. authorities access to information held by private U.S. companies. There are concerns that power might extend to companies in Canada with headquarters in the U.S.

Statistics Canada says such security concerns are not valid.

Source: "Census deal with U.S. firm goes through," Canadian Press, Oct. 9, 2004. <www.theglobeandmail.com/ servlet/story/RTGAM.20041009. wcens1009/BNStory/National> acronym stands for "Advanced Electronic Guidance and Instrumentation System." However, no matter how cute the nomenclature, weapons are still the destructive tools of war. And, no matter how clever the appropriation of ancient Greek mythological symbols, AE-GIS is, in fact, just a weapons system



General Manager, Lockheed Martin Canada

Munro's career began in the Ship-Building Branch of the Department of Supply and Services in 1983, when Canada's largest-ever military contract—the patrol frigate project was first awarded. Munro left in 1989 to join Martin Marietta Canada, a Lockheed Martin Canada company.¹

Lockheed Martin Canada is the "prime systems integrator of the Canadian patrol-frigate program, which includes the design, development and integration of the combat system, the integrated machinery control system, [and] the land-based test facility for all 12 ships."²

Munro uses his government experience to help land lucrative, warrelated contracts. He also speaks at events, like the "Federal Government Procurement Conference of the Americas" (November 2004), organized by Canadian and U.S. government agencies.³

References

- 1. Executive Profile
- <www.lockheedmartin.com>
- 2. 2005 Source Book, Signal. <afceaportal.org/sourcebook/ details.jsp?cid=10001196>
- 3. Federal Government Procurement Conference of the Americas <www.ccc.ca/fgpca2004.htm>

aboard a variety of U.S. warships.

According to the U.S. Missile Defense Agency, which oversees the most comprehensive weapons development program in world history,

"The Aegis Weapon System, the basis for the sea-based element of the Ballistic Missile Defense System, is currently deployed on 68 U.S. Navy cruisers and destroyers, with 18 more



Lockheed Martin: Fox in the Hen House By Tim Weiner

Lockheed Martin doesn't run the United States. But it does help run a breath-takingly big part of it.

Over the last decade, Lockheed Martin, the nation's largest military contractor, has built a formidable information-technology empire that now stretches from the Pentagon to the post office. It sorts the mail and totals the taxes. It cuts Social Security checks and counts the U.S. census. It runs space flights and monitors air traffic. To make all that happen, Lockheed Martin writes more computer code than Microsoft.

Of course, Lockheed Martin is best known for its weapons, which are the heart of America's arsenal. It builds most of the nation's warplanes. It creates rockets for nuclear missiles, sensors for spy satellites and scores of other military and intelligence systems. The Pentagon and the Central Intelligence Agency might have difficulty functioning without its expertise.

But in the post-9/11 world, Lockheed Martin has become more than just the biggest corporate cog in what Dwight D. Eisenhower called the ships currently planned."2

And, according to the website MissileThreat.com, a project of the right-wing Claremont Institute "devoted to understanding and promoting the requirements for the strategic defense of the United States," the AEGIS Ballistic Missile Defense system

"will provide an efficient and highly mobile sea-based defense against short- and medium-range ballistic missiles in their midcourse phase.

The system will integrate the U.S. Navy's existing fleet of Aegis cruisers (Ticonderoga class) and Aegis destroyers (Arleigh Burke class) with the Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) interceptor currently under development. The system will allow the Missile Defense Agency (MDA)



military-industrial complex. It is increasingly putting its stamp on the nation's military policies, too.

Lockheed stands at "the intersection of policy and technology," and that "is really a very interesting place," said its CEO, Robert J. Stevens, a tightly-wound former Marine. [Editor's note: He's also a Director of Monsanto.] "We are deployed entirely in developing daunting technology," he said, and that requires "thinking through the policy dimensions of national security as well as technological dimensions."

To critics, however, Lockheed Martin's deep ties with the Pentagon

raise some questions.

Former Lockheed executives, lobbyists and lawyers hold crucial White House and Pentagon posts, picking weapons and setting policies.

"It's impossible to tell where the government ends and Lockheed begins," said Danielle Brian of Project on Government Oversight, a nonprofit group in Washington DC that monitors government contracts. "The fox isn't guarding the henhouse. He lives there."

Source: "Lockheed and the Future of Warfare," *New York Times*, November 28, 2004.

to move its defense capabilities close to enemy launch sites, thus providing a critical 'layer' to the broader Ballistic Missile Defense System."³

VISTA: The AEGIS Training System

Of course, LM Canada's VISTA is also an acronym. It stands for "Visual Interactive Simulated Training Application." Since 1998, LM Canada has been the sole-source supplier of the VISTA for the AEGIS "missile defense" weapons.

The section of the U.S. Navy that procured LM Canada's VISTA system was the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD). As the NSWCDD website explains, it was created in 1918 as the U.S. Navy's

"chief proving ground for largecaliber guns... NSWCDD has established a tradition of science and technological excellence in research, development, testing and evaluation of weapon systems for the armed forces of America as well as products that bettered the American way of life."⁴ The NSWCDD's "Visitor Information" webpage proudly notes that is now "at the forefront of naval science and engineering" when it comes to a long list of weapons programs, including "theater ballistic missile defense."⁵

When the NSWCDD procured VISTA from LM Canada, it did so "on behalf of the AEGIS Training and Readiness Center" (ATRC) in Dahlgren, Virginia.⁶ Like the centre of a bull's eye target, the ATRC is a "center" for weapons testing/training that lies within a larger "center" for weapons testing/ training. Established in 1984, the "core mission" of the ATRC is

"training personnel in the operation, maintenance and employment of various weapons systems associated with the AEGIS Combat Systems found aboard the Navy's Aegis cruisers and destroyers."⁷

The central importance of AE-GIS to "missile defense" is demonstrated by the fact that the commanding officer of the ATRC is Capt. Roger C. Easton, Jr., the former Deputy Director of the Joint Staff's Joint Theater Air and Missile Defense Organization, in Washington, D.C. (And, he also commands another center for weapons testing and training, the Center for Surface Combat Systems.⁸)

The NSWCDD/ATRC gave LM Canada the AEGIS weapons-training contract on a "non-competitive," "sole source basis." This means no other corporations—American, Canadian or otherwise—could bid for the contract. LM Canada was certainly well-placed to succeed because its parent company, war industry giant Lockheed Martin, is the prime contractor for the AEGIS weapons system itself.

Thanks to *Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) Daily*, which lists U.S. government contracts, we know what the U.S. Navy was looking for when it first announced, in July 1998, that LM Canada's Montreal branch would receive the VISTA contract. Here is how they described what they wanted from LM Canada:

"The Naval Surface Warfare Center,

Aegis was the Deadly Shield of the Rapacious God, Zeus

The U.S. military sometimes uses ancient Greek mythology as a source of names for its weapons systems. The AEGIS Combat System is a case in point.

Can the cultural appropriation of this ancient term be used to shed any light on the AEGIS weapons system of today and what it protects?

Although "aegis" now generally refers to sponsorship, patronage, guidance or protection, it is probably derived from "*aisso*," an ancient Greek word meaning "rapid, violent motion."¹

The ancient Greek poet Homer, spoke of the aegis in the *Illiad* as the magical shield² used by Zeus. So, who was Zeus and what exactly was his aegis being used to protect? Not only was Zeus the "supreme god and ruler of Olympus,"³ he was a mighty philanderer and rapist. Some argue that to understand the allegorical meaning of Zeus

"his barbaric rapes can be interpreted as the male-dominated warrior tribes invading and defeating matrilineal societies."⁴

This aspect of the aegis is also to be found in the story of Perseus who, upon murdering the snakehaired goddess, Medusa, used her decapitated head as a weapon in various exploits. Her head was later forged into Zeus' aegis and then given to Athena. Medusa is interpreted

> by some to represent: "Sovereign female wisdom. The female mysteries. All the forces of the primordial Great Goddess."⁵ Her murder symbolises the destruction of female wisdom:

"The potential of women in general is silenced and the forces of nature are conquered in an ultimate act of domination and vengeance."⁶

The aegis was not just seen as an "indestructible," defensive shield to protect Zeus from mortal enemies who dared counter his rule over heaven and earth. Zeus' aegis could also be used for offensive purposes. When Zeus shook his shield, it created such thunderously destructive storms⁵ that "men are smitten with fear."⁶ In fact, the aegis was considered a weapon that "possessed the power to terrify and disperse the enemy or to protect friends."⁷

According to Homer, Zeus' aegis was crafted by his son Hephaestus, the god of blacksmiths. Besides creating the shield to pro-

Press for Conversion! (Issue # 57) October 2005



Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD) on behalf of the AEGIS Training and Readiness Center...intends to noncompetitively procure systems engineering and technical support services for developing computer based equipment simulations (VISTA) used for technical training purposes. The VISTA simulations will simulate AEGIS tactical and related equipment faults/failure, automatically perform self-test diagnostics, and include an instructor management utility program."⁹

A Canadian report, extolling the wonders of VISTA, jointly authored by a Canadian Naval officer and a representative of LM Canada, gives further details about the system. They explain that it is "installed on networked PCs [personal computers]" and

"the student is presented with a realistic visual representation of the equipment in which familiarization and corrective maintenance tasks are performed. From an instructor's station, faults are placed on the simu-

tect his violent and philandering father, Hephaestus is also remembered for smelting a set of heavy chains which—"with the help of Cratos (Power) and Bia (Force)"—he used to bind Prometheus. This hero had the gall to light his torch from the fire of the gods on Mount Olympus and then carry it down to earth so other mortals could use it. For this horrendous crime, he was chained to a cliff for many years and forced to suffer the daily torture of having his liver devoured by an eagle.⁸

So, let this be a lesson to anyone who would dare to tangle with the mighty and powerful gods. They have the best weapons, both defensive and offensive, and they will readily use their vastly superior technologies to wage war and inflict torture upon anyone who threatens their rapacious lifestyle.

References

- 1. Wikipedia Aegis < en. wikipedia.org/wiki/Aegis>
- Shawn Eyer, "Ancient Greek Hymns to Athena." <www.commonplacebook. com/inspire/athena/hymns.shtm>
- Zeus the Philanderer <myths.allinfo about.com/ feature91.html>
- 4. Ibid.
- Olympians <homepage.mac.com/cparada/ GML/OLYMPIANS.html>
- 6. Wikipedia Aegis, op. cit.
- 7. www.answers.com/topic/aegis
- Prometheus 1 <homepage.mac.com/cparada/ GML/Prometheus1.html>

lated equipment and the student's performance is monitored."¹⁰

In 1998, LM Canada also landed a separate contract for AEGIS weapons training that involved "fiber optic switches" for the VISTA system.¹¹

Two months later, when LM announced that its Montreal subsidiary had won the VISTA contract for AEGIS training, it revealed that VISTA:

"allows instructors to provide each student with an independent 'electronic version' of a system under instruction. The first VISTA applications to be developed for the ATRC will be emulations of some of the Aegis Class Combat System equipment.... VISTA effectively trains maintainers and operators of complex equipment while minimizing or even eliminating the need for access to the actual equipment. VISTA provides an environment in which students use real-time simulation in a dynamic free-play setting to operate, fault-find and repair equipment."12

This announcement also says

that the contract was for US\$4.5 million and that it was expected to last five years. Five years later, on April 5, 2003, another NSWCDD "noncompetitive" contract was awarded to LM Canada for the AEGIS training system. This time, however, the "cost-plus-fixed-fee, indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract" was very kindly brokered by a Canadian government agency that often fronts for Canadian war industries doing business with the U.S., namely, the Ottawa-based Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC).¹³ (For more about the CCC, see p. 34.)

This second, five-year VISTA contract had a value of US\$29,995,432. Unlike the 1998 contract, which was to be done at LM Canada's Montreal facilities, the work for this contract

"will be performed in Kanata, Ontario, Canada, and is expected to be completed by September 2008."¹⁴

The DoD announcement sums up the VISTA systems as a:

"flexible, high-fidelity, computerbased networked system that pro-

Athena's Costly Aegis Shield made War "sweeter...than returning home."

In the *Odyssey* and the *Illiad*, Homer repeatedly referred to the goddess Athena as "the daughter of aegisbearing Zeus." However, she too was a mighty warrior and bore the magical shield called Aegis on her left shoulder and arm.

The patron goddess of Athens, used the powerful qualities of her aegis to win many victories in the field of battle.

Below is a passage from the *Iliad* illustrating that, since ancient times, "defensive shields" were recognised as essential yet incredibly costly instruments of war. Homer also describes the psychological value of the aegis shield for inspiring ferocious courage during battle.



"Athena went among them holding her priceless aegis that knows neither age nor death. From it there waved a hundred tassels of pure gold, all deftly woven, and each one of them worth a hundred oxen. With this she darted furiously everywhere among the hosts of the Achaeans, urging them forward, and putting courage into the heart of each, so that he might fight and do battle without ceasing. Thus war became sweeter in their eyes even than returning home in their ships." Homer, *Illiad*, Book II (trans. by Samuel Butler) www.uoregon.edu/~joelja/iliad.html#b2 vides a training environment for both operation and corrective maintenance tasks."¹⁵

It also notes that the VISTA contract "combines purchases for the U.S. Navy (30%) and the governments of Japan (21%), Norway (21%), South Korea (21%) and Spain (7%)."¹⁶

VISTA is required by the navies of these countries because they are all now part of the AEGIS program. This navalweapon system is the entry point through which U.S. allies are becoming integrated into "missile defense." (See "U.S. Using AEGIS to Draw Allied Navies into BMD," pp. 14-15.)

In 2003, the same year that LM Canada received its second, "noncompetitive," five-year contract for VISTA, the training system was

"awarded a 'best of breed' status in an independent report on PC Simulation prepared for the U.S. Naval Education and Training Command. The report says VISTA stood out from a survey of over 100 competitor vendor products on the criteria of: type of simulations developed/ matching with Navy objectives; interaction; fidelity and instructional methodology."¹⁷

Why Buy Canadian?

Although most Canadians might find it hard to believe that their country even *has* a military-industrial complex, the reality is that Canada's war industries are certainly among the very best in the world. This is in no small part because Canadians are highly educated and technically skilled. However, Canada's high-ranking, global position as an exporter of advanced weapons systems is also the result of government generosity in financing domestic military research, development and production.

When the U.S. navy first turned to LM Canada to fulfil its AEGIS weapons system training needs, VISTA had already been in use for about four years by Canada's navy. The LM media release that announced the contract in 1998, included a quotation from the then-president and CEO of LM Canada, Carey Smith. At that time, he said that

"the U.S. Navy AEGIS contract award was facilitated by the excellent performance of VISTA on the Canadian Forces Maintenance Procedures Project."¹⁸

This corporate media release also noted that:

needs of the Canadian Department of National Defence (DND) and has been in continuous use within DND since 1994.^{"19}

A technical paper by LCdr James McLachlan (a Canadian Navy project manager) and Stan Jacobson (LM Canada's business development manager), notes that VISTA was developed by LM Canada "under sponsorship from the Canadian Navy."²⁰ They explain that the training program was originally "dubbed the Maintenance Procedures Trainer and was later marketed as VISTA by LM Canada."²¹

By 1999, eleven such systems had been produced for Canada's navy and more were to follow. McLachlan and Jacobson go on to remark that

"In addition, the U.S. Navy is procuring VISTA for some of the equipment in the AEGIS and NSSN [the new class of U.S. "attack submarines"] programs."²²

So, VISTA was initially created thanks to cooperative efforts by Canada's scientific, military and industrial sectors. However, this Canadian weapons training technology would not have been possible without the generous public funding and coordination

"VISTA was developed to meet the

Lockheed Martin Helps "the Good Guys" on "Missile Defense"

oday, we know that the rules of engagement have changed, but what is at stake has not. At Lockheed Martin, we understand that the solutions required to protect freedom on a global scale will require that **the good guys** see the big picture and have the solutions to defend our nation and allies. Lockheed Martin contributes to every U.S. land-based, airborne, sea- and space-based missile

defense initiative; and consults on air and missile defense issues with U.S. and international governments.

Lockheed Martin missile defense capabilities include:

- Air and Ballistic Missile Defense
- ♦ Battle Management
- Command and Control
- ♦ Systems Integration
- ♦ Weapon Systems

Specifically, our technologies play a role in:

- ♦ Boosters, Targets, Countermeasures
- ♦ Hit-to-Kill Technology
- Infrared Seekers
- Interceptor Systems and Kill Vehicles
- Precision Pointing and Tracking Optics
- Radar and Other Sensors
- Signal Processing and Data Fusion

26

Defense Agency (MDA) decided to network missile defense sensors, weapons and decision nodes into a seamless system, the nation called on us. Lockheed Martin is leading a national team to develop the Ballistic Missile Defense System's Command, Control, Battle Management and Communication System.

When President George W. Bush and the Missile



The term "missile defense" is a Trojan Horse hiding the biggest weapons development program in world history. This effort involves the integration of hardware and software elements that will tie together the entire global missile defense system, and enable it to function effectively and instantaneously. We are keenly aware of the importance of this responsibility, and are committed to helping our customers be successful at their defining moments.

Source: "Missiles & Missile Defense," Lockheed Martin website. Website: www.lockheed martin.com

Press for Conversion! (Issue # 57) October 2005

provided by the Canadian government. Canadian taxpayers ended up shelling out about \$90 million dollars to develop the VISTA system for Canada's frigates. (For more information on the early history of this Canadian governmentfinanced project, and the maelstrom of scandals that swirled around it at the time, see "VISTA's Scandalous Origins," p. 28.)

This LM Canada product is now being used to train AEGIS weapons specialists from the U.S., Japan, Norway, South Korea and Spain. Their navies have all bought into the AEGISweapons program as a means of integrating themselves into a multinational, U.S.-led "missile defense" weapons system of the not-too-distant-future.

For its part, Canada is making sure that all of these "missile defense" players receive the very best "missile defense" weapons-training system that money can buy. *Thanks Canada!*

References 1. Lockheed Martin brochure <www.lock</td> the

- heedmartin.com/data/assets/4863.pdf>
- Media release, Missile Defense Agency, Feb. 24, 2005. <www.comspacewatch. com/news/viewpr.html?pid=16234>
- Missile Defense Systems Aegis Ship-Based BMD <www.missilethreat.com/ systems/aegis_usa.html>
- 4. Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division <www.nswc.navy.mil>
- 5. Ibid.
- Commerce Business Daily, July 15,1998 PSA#2137 <www.fbodaily.com/cbd/archive/1998/07(July)/15-Jul-1998/ Usol003.htm>
- George Dunn, "Center for Surface Combat Systems, Aegis Training & Readiness Center hold change of command," May 20, 2004. <www.npdc.navy.mil/ news/npdc0417_final.pdf>
- 8. Ibid.
- 9. Commerce Business Daily, op. cit.
- LCdr James McLachlan (Cdn. Navy) and Stan Jacobson (LM Canada), "Computer Based Maintenance Training in

- the Canadian Navy" <www.simsysinc. com/i_itsec99.htm>
- 11. Commerce Business Daily, op. cit.
- 12. Media release, October 21, 1998 <www.stockhouse.com/bullboards/ viewmessage.asp?no=169203&t= 0&all=0&TableID=2>
- U.S. DoD "Contract," September 5, 2003. <www.defenselink.mil/contracts/ 2003/ct20030905.html>
- 14. Ibid.
- 15. Ibid.
- 16. Ibid.
- Defence Industry and Aerospace Report, November 2, 2003. <diar.com/ data/news03. htm>
- LM Media release, "Awarded Contract for PC Based Trainers for USN Aegis," October 21, 1998. <www.stockhouse. com/bullboards/viewmessage.asp? no=169203&t=0&all=0&TableID=2>
- 19. Ibid.
- 20. J. McLachlan & S. Jacobson, op. cit.
- 21. Ibid.
- 22. Ibid.

What Good are Canada's Multibillion Dollar Frigates?

So far, Canada's world-class, war frigates have been deployed by the Liberal government to aid a variety of U.S.-led wars and invasions. For instance, Canada's Liberals have okayed the use of these multibillion dollar, warships to:

- enforce the brutal, naval blockade of Iraq, throughout the 1990s, that had near-genocidal effects upon the people of Iraq,
- work with NATO forces in the Adriatic during the illegal, war against Yugoslavia in 1999,
- support the U.S.-led occupation of Afghanistan since 2001. (Meanwhile, on the ground in Afghanistan, Canada has lead the so-called "International Security Assistance Force"),
- ♦ lend a helping hand in the latest Iraq war, since 2003. Canadian frigates helped protect U.S. warships enroute through the Persian Gulf and into position off Iraq. Once safely in place, these U.S. warships launched their brutal "shock and awe" bombardment of Iraq.

Peter Haydon, senior research fellow at Dalhousie University's Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, Halifax, NS, notes that Canadian frigates "routinely deploy with U.S. Navy carrier battle groups to the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf as a signal of allied solidarity."¹



A Canadian Frigate Operates with a U.S. Aircraft Carrier in Persian Gulf

"The Canadian Navy is the only foreign navy to successfully operate as part of U.S. Carrier Battle Groups. This success is due to the extensive training that the U.S. and Canadian navies conduct together.... Canada's frigates are a welcome addition to any coalition naval force because of the ship's highly skilled crew and its modern communications, sensors and weapons systems.... It is considered by Canada's allies as the most capable ship of its size in the world."

Source: "Canadian Navy Teams up with U.S. Carrier Battle Groups," Dep't of National Defence <www.forces.gc.ca/site/focus/canada-us/backgrounder_e.asp>

References

- Peter T. Haydon, "Combatting Terrorism Canadian Realities," *Maritime Affairs* (The Naval Officers Association of Canada), September 22, 2001. www.naval.ca/article/terrorism.html
- "The U.S.-Canada Strategic Partnership in the War on Terrorism," Center for the Study of the Presidency. www.thepresidency.org/pubs/canada_final_report.pdf

Canadian frigates now operate as adjuncts to the U.S. Navy,

following American warships to whatever war or military exercise

they are leading. This fact is alluded to by the Center for the Study

of the Presidency. This U.S. think tank notes that Canada's frigates

"routinely integrate with U.S. carrier battle groups" and that a Cana-

dian frigate accompanies "virtually every U.S. carrier battle group

deployed from the west coast" of North America.² Thanks Canada.

VISTA's Scandalous Origins

ISTA was initially created, paid for and developed as part of the Canadian Patrol Frigate (CPF) Project, "the largest Canadian defence procurement ever undertaken."¹ It undertook to design and build 12 frigates in Canada over 15-years with a budget of \$10.4 billion.²

Lockheed Martin has had numerous corruption scandals.³ The early history of its VISTA product is a case in point. Some even alleged that publicly-funded Canadian intellectual property was stolen by Lockheed Martin!

The government's "Interdepartmental Review of the Canadian Patrol Frigate Project" had a 22-page "Report on Security."⁴ It details this now, largely-forgotten controversy and reveals that the Canadian government's \$90-million commitment was what created VISTA (then known as the "Maintenance Procedures Trainer.") Canada's early support for VISTA was also credited in 1998, by LM Canada's CEO, for paving the way for its later use in the U.S. AEGIS "missile defense" training program.⁵

Here are quotes from the "Interdepartmental Review": "In 1991, [Canadian] Treasury Board approval was received to proceed with the CST [Combat Systems Trainers] Project on a sole-source basis with ... the principal subcontractor [LM Canada] for the larger CPF Project. The CST Project was broken down into two distinct components—the Maintenance Procedures Trainer and the Operations Room Team Trainer. The overall funding for the CST was established at \$90M [million]....

In early 1993, the PMO [Project Management Office] senior management, as well as, the [CPF] prime contractor [Saint John Shipbuilding Ltd.], concluded that the CST Project was not progressing as expected, thereby resulting in suspension of the CST contract....

In the Summer of 1994, the DND...began an examination into allegations of conflict of interest within the CPF PMO.... Additional concerns and issues...included; conflict of interest, human resource management, non-performance by contractors, weaknesses in contract management as well as in national and industrial security. *Many* of the concerns focused on activities, processes and management practices associated with the \$90M sub-project for the acquisition of the CST."5(emphasis added)

Although the controversy began largely because of "concerns" about aspects of LM Canada's CST subproject, these "concerns" soon engulfed the entire \$10.4 billion warship program. As the "Security Report" explains:

"As the different allegations, concerns and complaints were raised, different review agencies and mandates became involved.... [C]ertain issues involving the CST were reported in November 1994 media coverage. Further coverage occurred in February 1995 when CTV's W5 Program ...was largely critical of the management of the CPF Project and of the performance of the frigates."⁶

DND's investigation into the corruption allegations were sparked by whistleblowers. The 46-page, Price-WaterhouseCoopers report noted such "concerns" as:

• "Intellectual property developed for the Crown is said to have been transmitted...to the U.S. by the Americans.



• Subcontractors associated with the MPT prototype development witnessed many instances when U.S. representatives would transmit data via modem to their office in the U.S. (names removed).

• Transfer of highly classified documents from a Canadian prime contractor to a U.S. company, government strategy documents to another U.S. company and high technology documents to another U.S. firm (names removed).

♦ A senior PMO manager requested a sub-contractor to spy on the prime contractor in July 1994. (names removed)

◆ An informal meeting was held by a DND service member at a private residence in Gatineau [Quebec] in May 1994 where software belonging to the CPF [was] given to a U.S. company, as part of an independent verification and validation contract, was demonstrated to a group of civilian and military personnel. (names removed)"⁷

References

- Peter Haydon, "Combating Terrorism Canadian Realities," Maritime Affairs (Naval Officers Assoc. of Cda), Sept. 22, 2001. www.naval.ca/article/haydon/Combating%20Terrorism.htm
- "The U.S.-Canada Strategic Partnership in the War on Terrorism," Center for the Study of the Presidency. www.thepresidency.org/pubs/canada final report.pdf
- 3. David Boulton, *The Grease Machine: The Inside Story of Lockheed's Dollar Diplomacy*, Harper and Row, 1978.
- Interdepartmental Review of the Canadian Patrol Frigate Project, Report on Security. March 26, 1999.
 www.pwgsc.gc.ca/aeb/text/archive/pfd/cpf sec e.pdf
- "Awarded Contract for PC Based Trainers for USN Aegis," Oct. 21, 1998. <
 www.stockhouse.com/bullboards/viewmessage. asp?no=169203&t=0&all=0&TableID=2>
- 6. Interdepartmental Review, op.cit.
- 7. Ibid.
- Review of the Combat Systems Trainer Contract Management Project, Report of Findings, June 4, 1999. www.dnd.ca/crs/pdfs/cpf_combat_e.pdf