

Japanese Propose Defense Budget Boost

Tokyo-Fiscal 1981 defense budget of \$11.43 billion, a 7.6% annual increase, has been proposed by the Japanese government.

Defense spending will rise at a slower rate than the total budget, which is to go up by 9.9% to about \$222.8 billion.

The spending plan, for April, 1981, to March, 1982, is expected to emerge from the Diet after three months of discussion with virtually no changes because the government party dominates the legislature.

Even with the increase, the government has predicted that the U.S. will press Japan for further defense spending. The U.S. has asked for a budget increase of at least 9.7% in fiscal 1981.

But, a Japanese official said, "If more appropriations for defense are forced, our national finance will be ruined." The new defense funding proposal is 5.13% of the total budget and 0.906% of the gross national product.

The funding requests for the services are:

- Ground Self Defense Force—Increase of 6.4% to \$4.496 billion. The service has asked for 16 aircraft, including eight Hughes/Kawasaki OH-6D helicopters.
- Maritime Self Defense Force—Increase of 8.5% to \$2.634 billion. It requested 17 aircraft, including 11 Sikorsky/Mitsubishi SH-3B antisubmarine warfare helicopters. One of the ships requested is a 4,500-ton, helicopter-equipped missile destroyer,
- Air Self Defense Force—Increase of 9.8% to \$2.689 billion. The service asked for 25 aircraft, including six Lockheed C-130H transports, four Grumman E-2C earlywarning aircraft and nine Mitsubishi T-2 trainers.

The budget also has a \$434.3-million request for space programs, such as H-1A rocket development; CS-2, the second operational communications satellite; MOS-1, the first Marisat, and ERS-1, the first earth resources satellite.

News Digest

More balanced approach to the Defense Dept. annual budget review process, with particular emphasis on redressing the lack of operations and maintenance funding, was urged in a report released last week by a House Armed Services Committee readiness panel chaired by Rep. Bob Carr (D.-Mich.).

European organization responsible for

marketing the Ariane space launch vehicle has booked three new payloads for Ariane in the 1980s. Arianespace has received a reservation from the Telecommunication Luxemburger Co. (C.T.L.) for launch of the R.T.L. broadcasting satellite in May, 1985, as well as a commitment from the Colombian government for launches in July and October, 1984, of the telecommunications satellites Satcol-1 and Sat-

Australians Plan Business Aircraft Buy

Washington - Royal Australian Air Force is plannning to acquire six business-flyingtype aircraft to perform photographic survey, target towing and air defense support missions for an initial operational capability in 1984.

The six aircraft would replace English Electric Canberras in the utility roles. The Australian request for proposals, Issued in November, asked for industry proposals by Feb. 11, 1981, and said leasing of aircraft will be considered.

Aircraft being considered for the Australian air force buy include:

- Gulfstream American Gulfstream 3.
- Canadair Challenger.
- Cessna Citation 3.
- Gates Learjet Model 35/55.
- Dassault-Brequet/Falcon Jet Falcon 50.
- British Aerospace HS. 125-700.
- Rockwell International Sabreliner 65.
- Israel Aircraft Industries Westwind 1/2.

Two other sales of business-flying-type aircraft to services for utility purposes highlight the increasing demand for this type of aircraft for support missions.

The Royal Danish Air Force purchased three Gulfstream American Gulfstream 3s for maritime surveillance, logistics support and general utility missions, and holds options on five more aircraft (AW&ST Nov. 5, 1979, p. 60). A decision on whether to exercise its options on the first of the additional Gulfstream 3s was being awaited from the Danish government last week.

In another order, the Finnish defense forces have ordered three special mission aircraft from Gates Learjet (AW&ST Oct. 27, 1980, p. 26). The modified Lear 35A, with a belly-mounted Litton APS-504 radar installed, will be used for target towing, sea patrol, aerial mapping, air pollution control and other utility missions.

col-2. The launch reservation agreements involve a payment of \$100,000 each.

Chinese manned spaceflight will not be launched in the decade of the 1980s. according to Wang Zhuanshan, secretary general of the new China Space Research Society. Planning for a manned mission has been postponed from a possible launch in the mid-to-late-1980s because of economic considerations and a decision to reassess Chinese space program goals. China earlier had displayed photos of astronauts in training (AW&ST Feb. 4, 1980, p. 7).

Gerald J. Tobias, former president and chief executive officer of United Technologies Corp.'s Sikorsky Aircraft Div., has been reassigned to the corporate management staff. Robert F. Daniell, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Sikorsky, has been assigned the responsibilities of the division's chief executive officer, which he will perform in addition to his current duties.

Yakovlev Yak-42 120-seat transport has gone into scheduled service with Aeroflot. flying once a week between Moscow and Krasnodar, in the Caucasus, according to Tass. Next year, service will be extended to the Ukraine and other parts of the Caucasus. The Ilyushin Il-86 transport also went into scheduled service Dec. 26, flying from Moscow to Tashkent. The aircraft will fly this route three times a week and later will begin service between Moscow and Leningrad, Novosibirsk, and several Black Sea resorts.

Robert Galley has been appointed France's new minister of defense, filling the post left vacant with the death of Defense Minister Joel Le Theule. Galley has been Minister of Cooperation, and he will retain this position along with his new defense duties.

E.C. Wheeldon, former chairman of Westland Aircraft of Britain, died late last month at the age of 73. Wheeldon had been an official of Westland since 1938, becoming chairman in 1968. He retired in

Saab-Scania last week ordered construction of a new 270,000 sq. ft. factory at Linkoping, Sweden, for the assembly of the Saab-Fairchild 340 commuter airline aircraft. In addition to the factory, Saab-Scania will build a 65,000 sq. ft. office building. Total construction costs are estimated at \$30 million and the factory is expected to be completed in mid-1982.

Harding L. Lawrence, 60, resigned as Braniff International board chairman and chief executive officer effective Jan. 1. He will be named chairman emeritus by the Braniff board when it meets Jan. 7, when it is expected to appoint a successor.