



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC

Office Of The Under Secretary

12 JAN 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR HQ AFMC/IA

FROM: SAF/IA
1080 Air Force Pentagon
Washington DC 20330-1080

SUBJECT: Providing Y2K Compliance Certificates to FMS Customers (IAX 99001)

A number of Foreign Military Sales (FMS) customers have raised the issue of obtaining Y2K Compliance Certificates for equipment purchased through security assistance. In that most FMS systems are variants of standard USAF systems, we have advised the FMS customer, where appropriate, that their US purchased systems are in active assessment, or have been certified as compliant. Formal notification was accomplished via an FMS Y2K Status Report published and distributed 15 Oct 98.

The report noted a number of systems were "COMPLETE", meaning for the standard USAF configured system, an assessment was accomplished, renovations were completed as required, and the equipment had been returned to USAF operational use. USAF policy mandates issue of certificates for critical USAF command and control systems and the certification is maintained on file at the system office. However, for FMS systems reflecting "COMPLETED" we have withheld furnishing copies of the certificates due to legal and financial liability concerns.

In November 1998, my staff requested comments concerning furnishing a formal certification to FMS customers from the security assistance community, AFY2K Office and Office of the General Counsel (International) (SAF/GCI). After careful consideration of comments received we believe there are critical legal and financial obligations inferred on the USG should we issue compliance certificates to FMS customers, therefore the following policy is effective immediately: USAF will not issue formal certificates of Y2K compliance to FMS customers for systems purchased through FMS. This policy includes systems in current delivery,

future deliveries or systems which have already been delivered. The Quarterly SAF/IA Y2K Status Report distributed through the SAOs to FMS customers will suffice as notification of a systems Y2K status.

Should you receive requests from FMS customers concerning copies of Y2K Compliance Certificates, please refer them to the above policy decision. Request widest dissemination of this policy decision. The Security Assistance Y2K focal point is Mr. Lewis Witt, SAF/IAX, (703) 588-8960, DSN 425-8960 or email Witt.Lewis@pentagon.af.mil.



ROBERT D. BAUERLEIN
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cc:
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