

ALLEN B. WEST

22ND DISTRICT, FLORIDA

1708 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0922  
202-225-3026  
FAX 202-225-8398

6300 NE 1ST AVENUE, SUITE 100  
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33334  
954-202-6211  
FAX 954-202-6212

3111 SOUTH DIXIE HIGHWAY, SUITE 308  
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33405  
561-655-1943  
FAX 561-655-8018



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0922

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES  
MILITARY PERSONNEL

SMALL BUSINESS

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
INVESTIGATIONS, OVERSIGHT,  
AND REGULATIONS  
CONTRACTING AND WORKFORCE

October 15, 2012

The Honorable Howard P. "Buck" McKeon  
Chairman  
Committee on Armed Services  
United States House of Representatives  
2184 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman McKeon:

I am writing to ask you to request a briefing from the intelligence community on the Enhanced Medium Altitude Reconnaissance Surveillance System (EMARSS). I have become very concerned about the nature of safeguards within the program as a result of the recent restoration that added two additional aircraft to a program previously facing cancellation.

As noted in the August 13, 2012 issue of *Inside the Army*, the Senate Appropriations Committee's report on the fiscal year 2013 defense-spending bill included \$70 million for the addition of two aircraft. I've attached a copy of the article for your reference.

My concern is based on the fact that the company responsible for manufacturing the EMARSS aircraft is likely about to be purchased by a company located in the Peoples Republic of China.

I am deeply concerned that classified technology could be transferred during this type of a sale.

As you are aware, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence recently issued a final report of their investigation into Chinese telecommunications companies Huawei and ZTE. Appropriately, the Committee concluded that these two firms posed a national-security threat to the United States and should be blocked from doing business in this country, stating that, "Based on available classified and unclassified information, Huawei and ZTE cannot be trusted to be free of foreign state influence and thus pose a security threat to the United States and to our systems."

In light of recent developments, I am requesting that the House Armed Services Committee be briefed by counterintelligence experts on the safeguards necessary to ensure that similar circumstances will be avoided with EMARSS.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request, and please do not hesitate to have your staff work with our Legislative Director, Josh Grodin, who can be reached at [josh.grodin@mail.house.gov](mailto:josh.grodin@mail.house.gov) or at 202.225.3026.

Steadfast and Loyal,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allen B. West". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "A".

Allen B. West  
Member of Congress

AW/jg