



March 23, 2009

The Honorable Hillary Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

On behalf of the nearly 300 member companies of the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA), we congratulate you on your recent confirmation as Secretary of State. We look forward to working with you on a range of important issues. The purpose of our letter today is to urge the Administration to work to secure timely Senate approval of the Defense Trade Cooperation Treaties with the United Kingdom and Australia.


We believe it is vitally important to modernize the U.S. export control process – especially with respect to technology to be shared with our closest allies and security partners – and we hope that you will make this a priority during your tenure. Ratification of the Treaties with the UK and Australia would be an important step in the right direction.

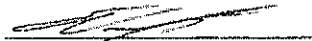
The strategic alliances that the United States enjoys with the United Kingdom and Australia are among the strongest and deepest in modern history. The proposed Treaties would provide unique and appropriate streamlining of licensing for projects undertaken by the U.S. government with the governments of two of our closest partners and their eligible contractors. To protect against unauthorized transfers, the Treaties include numerous safeguards and strict enforcement provisions. Facilitating U.S. defense exports to the UK and Australia will help the aerospace industry remain the strongest contributor to a positive balance of trade in the American economy – and continue to support more than two million jobs across all 50 states.


We understand that these Treaties have widespread support in the Senate and that there is no serious opposition to their ratification. No doubt you are also aware of the high priority that the United Kingdom and Australia attach to these


accords. Therefore, we urge you to seek final Senate approval of the Treaties as soon as possible. We stand ready to assist you in this important endeavor.


Best regards,



Robert J. Stevens
Chairman, President and CEO
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Chairman, Aerospace Industries Assoc.


Scott C. Donnelly
President and COO
Textron Inc.
Vice Chairman, Aerospace Industries Assoc.

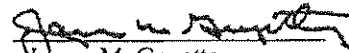

James F. Albaugh
President and CEO
Boeing Integrated Defense Systems

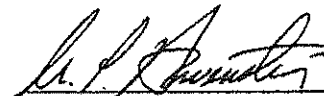

Marion C. Blakey
President and CEO
Aerospace Industries Association



Nicholas D. Chabraja
Chairman and CEO
General Dynamics Corporation

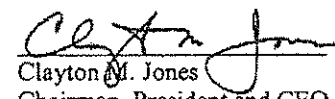

Kenneth C. Dahlberg
Chairman and CEO
Science Applications Intl. Corp.

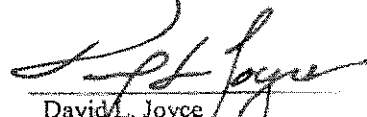

Robert J. Gillette
President and CEO
Honeywell Aerospace

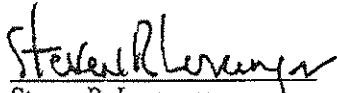

James M. Guyette
President and CEO
Rolls-Royce North America Inc.


Walter P. Havenstein
President and CEO
BAE Systems, Inc.

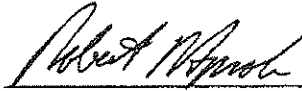

David P. Hess
President
Pratt & Whitney


Clayton M. Jones
Chairman, President and CEO
Rockwell Collins


David L. Joyce
President and CEO
GE Aviation



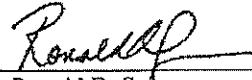
Steven R. Loranger
Chairman, President and CEO
ITT Corporation



Robert R. Sprole
President and CEO
Therm, Inc.



Michael T. Strianese
Chairman, President and CEO
L-3 Communications



Dr. Ronald D. Sugar
Chairman and CEO
Northrop Grumman Corporation



William H. Swanson
Chairman and CEO
Raytheon Company