



**Subcommittee on National Security,
Emerging Threats and International Relations**

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****MEDIA ADVISORY****

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Congressman Christopher Shays to Convene July 21 Hearing on

***“Is DOD Meeting Joint Strike Fighter (JSF)
International Cooperative Program Goals?”***

(Washington, DC) -- Congressman Christopher Shays (CT-4), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations, will convene an oversight hearing Monday, July 21 to examine whether the Department of Defense (DOD) will benefit from sharing Joint Fighter Program (JSF) program costs with international partners and improve interoperability with allied militaries once the system is fielded.

The Joint Fighter Program is viewed by many within the Department of Defense as the model acquisition program, as well as a new model for cooperative development and production between DOD and U.S. allies.

The Joint Strike Fighter program is intended to produce a next generation multi-role fighter to replace aging U.S. tactical aircraft inventories. The program is DOD's most ambitious and expensive procurement program, costing an estimated \$237 billion to develop and procure 2,600 aircraft and related support equipment.

The program structure is based on a complex set of relationships involving both government and industry from the United States and eight other nations.

During the July 21st hearing the General Accounting Office (GAO) will release the report *JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER ACQUISITION: Cooperative Program Needs Greater Oversight To Ensure Goals Are Met*, and testify about the complications of managing JSF program costs resulting from international participation and the challenges JSF technology transfers present for program execution, international suppliers and disclosure policy.

The Monday, July 21, 2003 hearing will convene at 11:00 a.m., room 2154 Rayburn House Office Building.

WITNESS LIST

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