

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE COAST
GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION



Duncan Hunter
U.S. House of Representatives
50th District, California

May 14, 2015

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President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

On March 9, 2015, I was joined by 22 of my House colleagues in writing to you with a recommendation to better support Jordan in the fight against the Islamic State by permitting Jordan to utilize Air Force-owned MQ-1 assets. The recommendation at the time was partly prompted by Jordan's growing interest in foreign military assets—specifically Chinese assets—as a result of the anticipated denial of Unmanned Aerial System transfers or support from the U.S. A response to the March 9, 2015, letter has not been received.

I am now aware that China is presently in Jordan to discuss operations, logistics and maintenance associated with the urgent sale of weaponized unmanned systems. Allowing Jordan to obtain Chinese assets—simply due to delays in U.S. considerations and process—is a serious mistake. Not only will a new market exist for China to export its technology, any incorporation of Chinese assets will directly harm U.S. interoperability.

Once again, I ask that you give serious consideration to allowing Jordan to immediately utilize existing MQ-1 or alternate assets as their requests for specific military assistance are further weighed. I am confident that we can curtail Jordan's interest in Chinese assets by taking this immediate action. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Duncan Hunter".

Duncan Hunter
Member of Congress