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Argentina One Of Three Top Bidders In U.S. Purchase Of Military Training Aircraft

by Barbara Khol
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On May 22 in Buenos Aires, President Carlos Menem told reporters that Argentina is among three bidders to supply 800 advanced training aircraft to the US Air Force and Navy. Delivery would begin in the second half of 1994. On May 2, 1990, Menem presided over a ceremony formalizing a joint venture between the Argentine Air Force and LTV Aerospace and Defense Ltd., headquartered in Dallas, Texas. LTV plans to submit a bid specifying a modified version of the Argentine Pampa 2000 trainer. The major change would be replacing the German-made Dornier power plant with a US-made one. The contract with the Dallas firm was formalized 32 days later when Buenos Aires announced a freeze on the Condor II missile project, a joint venture with Egypt. At that time, Menem denied US pressure to delay the project in exchange for consideration in the training craft deal. (Basic data from EFE, 05/22/91)

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