

FINDINGS

1. The proposed contract will provide that the contractor furnish approximately 2,520 LAU-3/A and 2,647 LAU-32B/A rocket launchers.
2. The proposed contract is to provide rocket launchers for U.S. Air Force combat forces. These rocket launchers are urgently required by the U.S. Air Force to meet Southeast Asia operational requirements. Air Force aircraft not fully equipped with these rocket launchers will be incapable of performing their assigned mission. Delivery of these launchers is required to begin in December 1965 and be completed in May 1966.
3. These launchers were designed, developed and are currently being manufactured by the Chromcraft Corp., the only producer. Data adequate for competitive procurement is not available for this equipment which is the only equipment that will fulfill this requirement. It is therefore, impracticable to formally advertise this procurement because the required supplies can be obtained only from the designer, developer, and sole producer, Chromcraft Corp.
4. The price is not fixed by law or regulation.

DETERMINATION

The proposed contract is for property or services for which it is impracticable to obtain competition by formal advertising.

L. D. WALLACE,
Contracting Officer, Bureau of Naval Weapons.

DECEMBER 13, 1965.

DETERMINATIONS AND FINDINGS (CONTRACT NO. NOW 66-0435-F)

AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE INDIVIDUAL CONTRACT FOR TECHNICAL OR SPECIALIZED SUPPLIES REQUIRING EXTENDED PERIOD OF PREPARATION FOR MANUFACTURE

Upon the basis of the following findings and determinations which I hereby make as Agency Head, the proposed contract described below may be negotiated without formal advertising pursuant to the authority of title 10, United States Code, section 2304(a) (14).

FINDINGS

1. The proposed contract will provide that the contractor furnish approximately 26,000 LAU-3A/A rocket launchers.
2. The proposed contract is to provide 2.75-inch FFAR rocket launchers for U.S. Navy combat forces. These rocket launchers are urgently required by the U.S. Navy to meet Southeast Asia operational requirements. U.S. Navy aircraft operating in that theater of operations not fully equipped with these rocket launchers will be incapable of performing their assigned mission. Delivery of these launchers is required to begin in March 1966 and be completed in June 1966. Cognizant Bureau technical personnel have described these launchers as technical and specialized equipment.
3. The manufacture of this equipment requires: a detailed familiarity with the appropriate design and specifications; an intimate knowledge of the manufacturing techniques involved; extensive production engineering; and an extended period of preparation for manufacture. It has been determined by the Bureau of Naval Weapons that only a firm having prior experience in the design and manufacture of this particular equipment, and already having an existing functioning production line, can deliver acceptable units in time to meet the stringent delivery requirements established for this procurement. Based on these criteria, Chromcraft Corp., by having designed, developed, and previously produced this equipment, and having the only going production line, is the only firm considered capable to manufacture the required equipment within the time available. On the other hand, other qualified manufacturers would be required to duplicate to a considerable extent the preparation for manufacture that has already been accomplished by Chromcraft Corp., and would, therefore, be unable to deliver acceptable equipment in time to meet either the initial or terminal delivery re-