

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 19, 2017

The Honorable Gene Dodaro
Comptroller General of the United States
441 G St. NW
Washington, DC 20548

Mr. Dodaro:

We write in response to GAO's recent report, "Foreign Military Sales: Kenyan Request for Armed Aircraft." We have serious concerns regarding the integrity of the report and call into question the legitimacy of GAO's findings and review. We do so based on the report's obvious failure to sufficiently examine relevant facts and occurrences surrounding the sale. This is especially troubling given GAO's obligation to serve as an independent and reliable auditor of the federal government. Bottom line, GAO's report on this sale to Kenya is fundamentally flawed.

Most disturbing is the fact that the GAO conducted the entirety of its investigation into the Pentagon's Foreign Military Sale of 12 armed border patrol aircraft to Kenya and reached its findings without even speaking with Kenyan government officials. Furthermore, the GAO based its findings on Air Force representations of interactions with the Kenyan government without corroborating those representations with the Kenyan officials themselves.

GAO also ignored shortcomings in the acquisition process that allowed for an existing and commercially available, "off-the-shelf" U.S. manufactured asset with a proven combat track record to be overlooked in favor of a sale that delivers a platform that remains unproven in combat at significantly higher costs.

Accordingly, we write to express our disappointment in the GAO and our extreme dissatisfaction with the effort undertaken to produce the "findings" in the report. It is our hope that the GAO improves in future efforts. The U.S. taxpayer, and his representatives depend on having a strong, independent and thorough auditor that takes into account the totality of circumstance regarding federal expenditures and contracting.

Sincerely,



Ted Budd
Member of Congress



Duncan Hunter
Member of Congress