

WASHINGTON – **Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01)** applauded the Japanese government's decision to purchase 42 F-35 Lightning II aircrafts. The deal for the jets, built by Lockheed Martin and powered by East Hartford's Pratt & Whitney F135 engine, was officially announced late last night.

"The announcement that Japan will purchase 42 F-35 aircraft reconfirms the international community's support for this critical program, which will play a vital role in the defense of the United States and our allies for decades to come," Congressman Larson said. "The F135 engines that power this plane, and are built by our very own men and women at Pratt & Whitney, have been proven time and again to be successful and in a class of their own. This agreement is great news for our community and is yet another way we are working to 'keep the eagle flying' in East Hartford."

Japan's decision to purchase the F-35 comes after multiple meetings between Congressman Larson and the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, Ichiro Fujisaki, to discuss the role that U.S. aerospace technology can play in the modernization of Japan's military.

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