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[From Inside Defense, May 30, 2014]

CARTER: JSF PROGRAM MANAGER BASED F-35 AWARD FEES ON DESIRE TO PROTECT LOCKHEED EXEC

(By Jason Sherman)

A former Joint Strike Fighter program executive officer was fired in 2010 after explaining that he based the government's decision to award prime contractor Lockheed Martin 85 percent of the potential award fee—when the F-35 program was suffering from major cost growth and schedule delays—on his desire to protect the job of his Lockheed counterpart, according to a former senior Pentagon official.

Ashton Carter, deputy defense secretary from 2011 to 2013, on May 16 provided a Harvard University audience a behind-the-scenes account of his efforts in 2009, during his first year as Pentagon acquisition executive, to understand why projected costs for the F-35 aircraft had doubled and why the program was facing schedule delays.

At the time, an independent cost estimating team was advising Pentagon leaders that the true cost to develop and procure the planned F-35 fleet would be billions of dollars more than the JSF program office estimated, foreshadowing a \$60 billion increase to the F-35's official price tag.

Carter said he called in the program manager, whom he does not name during his remarks. At that time, Marine Corps Maj. Gen. David Heinz had recently become the F-35 program manager, in April 2009. His predecessor, from 2006 to 2009, was Air Force Maj. Gen. Charles Davis, now a three-star general and the military deputy to the Air Force acquisition executive.

"I want to see the bill, everything that goes into the cost of this airplane," Carter said, in a video of his remarks posted on YouTube on May 22. "The program office didn't know, could not tell me where the money was going."

At that time, the F-35's development was being executed under a cost-plus contract, a vehicle that allows a contractor to pass costs on to the government in addition to seeking an award fee. "I asked the program manager: 'Let me see your award fee history.' I look at the award fee history over 10 years, it is 85 percent a year," Carter said.

The former deputy defense secretary said he told the program manager the F-35 program was "a disaster," adding, "You're giving an 85 percent award fee every year, what's going on?"

"And," Carter continued, "he looked me in the eye . . . and said: 'I like the program manager on the Lockheed Martin side that I work with and he tells me that if he gets less than 85 percent award fee, he's going to get fired.'"

"So, this guy was fired," Carter said of Heinz. Then-Defense Secretary Robert Gates announced Heinz's dismissal during a Feb. 1, 2010, press conference.

Carter subsequently ordered a sweeping technical review of the JSF program and transitioned it to a fixed-price contract in an effort to force Lockheed to shoulder a portion of the costs associated with developmental risks.

"We began a process that was very difficult: to re-educate the Air Force-Navy team that managed this important aircraft so that they knew what the hell they were paying for," Carter said in the Harvard speech. "They had no idea."

In 2013, the Pentagon restructured the award-fee scheme for the Joint Strike Fight-

er program, setting aside \$337 million that Lockheed Martin could earn by achieving specified goals during the balance of the aircraft's development phase.

Air Force Lt. Gen. Christopher Bogdan, the current F-35 program executive officer, told the Senate Armed Services tactical air and land forces subcommittee on April 24, 2013, that a portion of the remaining award fees Lockheed could earn would be tied to the timely delivery of planned aircraft complete with scheduled software and capability improvements. The bulk of the remaining fee is tethered to achieving the current aircraft development plan on time and budget, he said. (Defense Alert, April 24, 2013).—Jason Sherman

SIMPSONS' 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, on Saturday, June 21, 2014, Senator Alan Simpson and his wife Ann will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. I invite all of my colleagues to join me in wishing them heartfelt congratulations.

Their children Bill, Colin, and Sue, sent an announcement honoring this milestone saying their parents are "celebrating 60 years of love, commitment and compromise." Those of us who have known and worked with Al and Ann Simpson have seen this spirit of love and devotion in every aspect of their lives.

For six decades, Wyoming has been fortunate to learn from Al and Ann. Though they met much earlier, the couple first began dating while they were students at the University of Wyoming. Over 60 years later, they are a true power couple. Each complements the other in every way—they are resilient, compassionate, and know the value of compromise. This special relationship has evolved into a lifelong partnership that serves as a model for all of us to follow.

My wife Bobbi and I look forward to celebrating this outstanding milestone with Al and Ann when we see them in Cody on July 4th. We will tell them what an inspiration they have been, not only to us, but to people all across the State. And, we will thank them for their service to Wyoming and our great Nation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING LAURA LAPLANTE

• Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, I wish to honor the life of Laura LaPlante—a law student from Hancock, NH, who was preparing to graduate from the University of Chicago Law School when her life was tragically cut short last month.

Laura was a student at St. Patrick's School in Jaffrey and at ConVal Regional High School in Peterborough, from which she graduated in 2006. After attending Columbia University, she returned to New Hampshire and graduated in 2010 from UNH—where she was a scholar-athlete who was at the top of her class.

Laura continued to distinguish herself as a student in law school, where she became a campus leader. In addition to serving as the president of the school's chapter of the Federalist Society, she also served as treasurer of the Law School Republicans. Additionally, Laura devoted her time and energy to the Saint Thomas More Society, the Law Women's Caucus, and the Edmund Burke Society.

Laura was a vibrant young woman whose kind and generous spirit and commitment to excellence—touched the lives of everyone around her.

A high school friend of hers said: "Laura is the kind of person everybody wants to be."

And a former teacher and coach at ConVal said, "She was the type of person that was always there for you"—adding that Laura was "very selfless."

She brought that same trademark kindness to Chicago, where one of her law school classmates was quoted as saying: "Laura was one of those people who would take the time to ask how I'm doing and actually listen."

These are just a few remembrances of this remarkable young woman. She was smart, outgoing, kind, and curious about the world around her. I know that Laura would have been an outstanding lawyer who brought intellect and integrity to the legal profession. And I also know that she would have continued to be a leader in her community.

Tragically, we will never know the heights that Laura would have achieved. She was taken from us far too soon.

As Laura's family and friends mourn her loss, I hope and pray that they will be comforted by their warm memories of her. She was a very special person whose uncommon kindness, caring spirit, and commitment to service brightened our world. Laura leaves behind an extraordinary legacy for all of us to carry on.●

TRIBUTE TO DAVID GIORDANO

• Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, today I recognize David Giordano, the former director of the Newark Fire Department. A driving force for good in the City of Newark, Dave's exceptional career as firefighter, fire director, and trusted advisor created the foundation for the long-term strength of the department, setting it on the path to a sustainable future, and improving safety for the city's residents.

A native of North Newark, Dave grew up near Sacred Heart Basilica and is a product of the Newark Public School system. As Newark invested in him, so, too, did he invest in Newark—first as a small business owner in 1979, and then, in 1985, as a firefighter. Committed to serving as a strong voice for his colleagues, Dave became active in the Newark Firefighter's Union, serving as treasurer and vice president, and ultimately union president.

When I became mayor of Newark in 2006, I knew Dave's knowledge and experience would be an asset to my team.

Indeed, he worked hard to obtain new equipment, shorten response times, and streamline the delivery of service to make our fire department more effective. In an emergency, every second counts; Dave's commitment to excellence surely saved lives.

Dave retires from the City of Newark on June 30, 2014, after 29 years of dedicated service to the city. These years have been marked by exemplary dedication to the best interests of the community and his fellow firefighters.

It is an honor to formally recognize the contributions that David Giordano has made to the citizens of Newark throughout his career, to thank him for his tremendous service, and to wish him happiness in a well-deserved retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO LYNN WOLF GENTZLER

● Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I wish to honor Lynn Wolf Gentzler, who has had a remarkable 42-year career with the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri-Columbia and the State Historical Society of Missouri. Next month, Lynn will leave her position to enjoy a well-deserved retirement. I have served on the board of trustees of the State Historical Society for some time, and I can tell you that Lynn has played a critical role in the promotion of the history of our State of Missouri.

As a native of DeKalb County, Lynn Wolf Gentzler attended the University of Missouri-Columbia and graduated with honors and a degree in education. She then went on to earn her master's degree and began a career as a manuscript specialist at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection in Columbia. Over years of dedicated hard work, she rose to the position of senior manuscript specialist and assistant director of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection.

She eventually assumed the positions of assistant director of the State Historical Society of Missouri and associate editor of the Missouri Historical Review in 1990. A year later, she became the associate director of the State Historical Society in Missouri, while continuing in her role as the associate editor of the Missouri Historical Review. In 2003, the board of trustees for the State Historical Society of Missouri asked Lynn to take up the role of acting executive director.

Lynn Wolf Gentzler is a leader who has demonstrated an incredible understanding and commitment to the past, present, and future of her community. Outside of her work with the Missouri Historical Review, Lynn's impressive authored and editorial works include entries in the "Dictionary of Missouri Biography," the "American National Biography," and the State Historical Society's publication entitled "Marking Missouri History." In addition, she edited every single book published by the State Historical Society of Missouri over the past decade.

In 2004, Lynn received the State Historical Society's Distinguished Service Award and Medallion for her outstanding decades of service to the cultivation and promotion of Midwestern history. Her enthusiastic and determined leadership as an administrator, writer, and editor has played a vital role in the preservation of our State and Nation's history.

Lynn has provided an incredible service to the State of Missouri for over 40 years, and I wish her well on her retirement.●

WARREN COUNTY, IOWA

● Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, the strength of my State of Iowa lies in its vibrant local communities, where citizens come together to foster economic development, make smart investments to expand opportunity, and take the initiative to improve the health and well-being of residents. Over the decades, I have witnessed the growth and revitalization of so many communities across my State. And it has been deeply gratifying to see how my work in Congress has supported these local efforts.

I have always believed in accountability for public officials, and this, my final year in the Senate, is an appropriate time to give an accounting of my work across four decades representing Iowa in Congress. I take pride in accomplishments that have been national in scope—for instance, passing the Americans with Disabilities Act, and spearheading successful farm bills. But I take a very special pride in projects that have made a big difference in local communities across my State.

Today, I would like to give an accounting of my work with leaders and residents of Warren County to build a legacy of a stronger local economy, better schools and educational opportunities, and a healthier, safer community.

Between 2001 and 2013, the creative leadership in your community has worked with me to secure funding in Warren County worth over \$6.8 million and successfully acquired financial assistance from programs I have fought hard to support, which have provided more than \$9.5 million to the local economy.

Of course, my favorite memories of working together include my support of the great work done by public safety entities in the county, working to improve local transportation infrastructure, as well as a strong partnership with Simpson College.

Among the highlights:

Investing in Iowa's economic development through targeted community projects: In Central Iowa, we have worked together to grow the economy by making targeted investments in important economic development projects, including improved roads and bridges, modernized sewer and water systems, and better housing options for

residents of Warren County. In many cases, I have secured Federal funding that has leveraged local investments and served as a catalyst for a whole ripple effect of positive, creative changes. For example, working with mayors, city council members, and local economic development officials in Warren County, I have fought for more than \$1.4 million for improvements to Highway 92, helping to create jobs and expand economic opportunities.

School grants: Every child in Iowa deserves to be educated in a classroom that is safe, accessible, and modern. That is why, for the past decade and a half, I have secured funding for the innovative Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program—better known among educators in Iowa as Harkin grants for public schools construction and renovation. Across 15 years, Harkin grants worth more than \$132 million have helped school districts to fund a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools. In many cases, these Federal dollars have served as the needed incentive to leverage local public and private dollars, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect within a school district. Over the years, Warren County has received over \$4.6 million in Harkin grants. Similarly, schools in Warren County have received funds that I designated for Iowa Star Schools for technology totaling \$367,796.

Disaster mitigation and prevention: In 1993, when historic floods ripped through Iowa, it became clear to me that the national emergency-response infrastructure was woefully inadequate to meet the needs of Iowans in flood-ravaged communities. I went to work dramatically expanding the Federal Emergency Management Agency's hazard mitigation program, which helps communities reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and enables mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery period. Disaster relief means more than helping people and businesses get back on their feet after a disaster, it means doing our best to prevent the same predictable flood or other catastrophe from recurring in the future. The hazard mitigation program that I helped create in 1993 provided critical support to Iowa communities impacted by the devastating floods of 2008. Warren County has received over \$1.1 million to remediate and prevent widespread destruction from natural disasters.

Agricultural and rural development: Because I grew up in a small town in rural Iowa, I have always been a loyal friend and fierce advocate for family farmers and rural communities. I have been a member of the House or Senate Agriculture Committee for 40 years—including more than 10 years as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Across the decades, I have championed farm policies for Iowans that include effective farm income protection and commodity programs;