

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 19-12 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$240.5 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.
Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-12

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Australia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$219.6 million.
Other \$ 20.9 million.

Total \$240.5 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The Government of Australia has requested to buy defense articles and services from the U.S. Government in

support of the National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System (NASAMS).

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

One hundred eight (108) AIM-120C-7 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM).

Six (6) AIM-120C-7 AMRAAM Air Vehicles Instrumented.

Six (6) Spare AIM-120C-7 AMRAAM Guidance Sections.

Non-MDE: Also included are containers, weapon system support equipment, support and test equipment, site survey, transportation, repair and return warranties, spare and repair parts, publications and technical data, maintenance, personnel training, and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representative engineering, logistics, and technical support services, and other related elements of logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (AT-D-YAI).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: AT-D-YLD.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: March 12, 2019.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Australia—AIM-120C-7 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles

The Government of Australia has requested to buy up to 108 AIM-120C-7 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); six (6) AIM-120C-7 AMRAAM Air Vehicles Instrumented; and six (6) spare AIM-120C-7 AMRAAM guidance sections. Also included are containers, weapon system support equipment, support and test equipment, site survey, transportation, repair and return warranties, spare and repair parts, publications and technical data, maintenance, personnel training, and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representative engineering, logistics, and technical support services, and other related elements of logistics support. These items are in support of Australia's purchase of the National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System (NASAMS). The estimated total program cost is \$240.5 million.

This sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Western Pacific. It is vital to the U.S. national interest to assist our ally in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability.

This proposed sale is in support of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Project LAND 19 Phase 7B for acquisition of a ground based air and missile defense capability. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be Raytheon Missile Systems, Tucson, Arizona. There are no known offset arrangements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Australia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-12

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. AIM-120C Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air (AMRAAM) is a radar guided missile featuring digital technology and micro-miniature solid-state electronics. AMRAAM capabilities include look-down/shoot-down, multiple launches against multiple targets, resistance to electronic counter measures, and interception of high flying and low flying and maneuvering targets. AIM-120 Captive Air Training Missiles are non-functioning, inert missile rounds used for armament load training, and which also simulates the correct weight and balance of live missiles during captive carry on training sorties. The AIM-120C-7, as employed in the National Advanced Surface-to-Air System (NASAMS), protects national assets from imminent hostile air threats. The AMRAAM All Up Round is classified CONFIDENTIAL, major components and subsystems range from UNCLASSIFIED to CONFIDENTIAL, and technology data and other documentation are classified up to SECRET.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

3. A determination has been made that Australia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

4. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Australia.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO HARRY C. LABONDE, JR.

• Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, today I recognize the distinguished career of Harry C. LaBonde, Jr., who, following decades of service in the State of Wyoming, is retiring this week.

Harry began his career shortly after graduating from college with a civil engineering degree. His first job allowed him to specialize on issues related to water and wastewater treatment. In 1991, he became the public works director for the city of Riverton. He went on to serve in the same position for the city of Laramie, until he later became city manager. For the past 15 years, Harry worked for the State of Wyoming, first as Wyoming's Deputy State Engineer and, more recently, as director of the Wyoming Water Development Office.

When at the State Engineer's office, Harry was involved with addressing a backlog of coal-bed methane reservoir permits in the Powder River Basin and transitioning the office from paper to electronic records, which required the modernization of millions of documents related to water and permits.

Wyoming was also facing severe water shortages due to an extended period of drought, requiring Harry to make the difficult decisions resulting from those shortages.

As director, Harry was instrumental in carrying out key responsibilities of Wyoming's Water Development Office: developing Wyoming's water resources through sound water planning and use. Water is a precious resource in the west. It is key to maintaining an excellent quality of life, economic security, and growth. Through Harry's leadership, numerous water storage projects are underway in the State, which will help Wyoming realize its water storage potential for today and to serve communities tomorrow. Whether it is through the reconstruction of the Middle Piney Dam or the storage enhancement project at Fontenelle Reservoir, Harry understands the importance of securing water resources in the State for future Wyoming generations.

In addition to reservoir planning and construction, Harry oversaw the development of river basin plans, weather modification projects, addressing watershed threats from wildfires, and carrying out the Small Water Project Program. Water affects everyone. Making sure Wyoming's water resources are used efficiently and responsibly for the benefit of the people of Wyoming is a responsibility Harry takes very seriously.

Harry's expertise and the strong relationships he has fostered throughout the basins we share with neighboring States is invaluable. He has contributed to a number of regional water supply efforts, including the Colorado River Basin States Salinity Control Program. He also serves as Wyoming's representative on the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, a cooperative agreement with Nebraska, Colorado, and the Federal Government, to maintain water usage and development by implementing conservation practices for certain endangered and threatened fish and birds.

We are fortunate Harry chose early in his professional life to use his skills and talents to focus on water. He has dedicated his career to being a water advocate for the people of Wyoming and to finding long-term solutions to securing Wyoming's water needs. We are all better for his efforts.

I invite all members of the Senate to join me in congratulating Harry on his retirement, and wishing both him and his family much happiness and success in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO STEVE CANNON

• Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, I congratulate Steve Cannon, who is retiring after a 42-year career in Idaho television.

Steve Cannon translated his deep interest in weather as a youth into a longtime career. He retired this month from his position as weatherman for KIDK Eyewitness News 3, which has

coverage in my hometown of Idaho Falls and the Pocatello area. He got his start in front of the camera in 1977, when he went to work for the former KID TV 3, but he began his broadcasting career in radio, working for a radio station in Rexburg. Leading up to his career in weather reporting, Steve graduated from Idaho Falls High School, studied journalism at Brigham Young University, served a mission in Great Britain, and finished his degree at Idaho State University.

Steve's love for his profession and deep understanding and appreciation for the people of eastern Idaho show in his thoughtful reporting. He is known for his humor, relatability, dependability, and strong work ethic. Steve has reported with agility and skill, as he has navigated significant advancements in weather reporting over the past four decades. Steve's weather reporting has shaped how countless Idahoans have planned their days, and his attentive reporting has been instrumental as he has reported on the major weather events that have had considerable impacts on lives.

In addition to his career, Steve has given his time and talent in support of service projects in the community. This includes his assistance with the creation of the Idaho Falls Citizen's Watch Patrol for the Idaho Falls Police Department.

I understand that Steve has looked forward to being able to dedicate all his time to his family and loved ones during retirement that begins as his wife also retires from teaching. I wish you both well, and thank you for your outstanding work in our community.●

REMEMBERING GEORGE DAUGHERTY

• Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, my home State has truly lost a shining star. We have lost a devoted West Virginian, a noble Army Veteran, a gifted performer, and a dear friend to all. George Daugherty's enthusiasm for life was infectious to anybody who had the privilege of knowing him, and it is an honor to recognize his life and legacy.

You could often find George on Morgantown's High Street next to the bronze statue of Don Knotts singing a rousing chorus of "Hail West Virginia." He would usually tack on a phrase at the end about beating Pitt that was met with rousing applause from those who stopped on the street to cheer him on. He was quite a character and best known as a musician, but he made a life for himself by practicing law.

Despite his musical comedy role in the Charleston jamboree, George's professionalism working on medical malpractice cases never faltered. He said he never had a bad relationship with a doctor he sued, and he generally ended up becoming friends with them. That was just who he was.

Another key component that made George the person he was, affecting his

music and life, was his unwavering patriotism. His father was a World War I veteran and instilled in him the pride and, of course, the patriotic songs that George would perform on stage, dressed in American flag-themed attire. He instilled these values in his children and grandchildren, encouraging them to be grateful for our freedom and to always remember where they have come from, and our statewide community is better for it.

It was an honor to call George my friend, a man who proudly showcased our State through performances across the Nation as "the Earl of Elkview" or "the Duke of Dunbar." He and my Uncle A. James were dear friends for many years, and I know he would have been so very proud to see all that George did to promote the State we love. Whether performing on the Capitol City Jamboree and the Mountain Stage, contributing over 50 years of excellence and professionalism practicing law, or giving back to his community, George represented the best of West Virginia, which is saying quite a lot. He was a proud representative of our beautiful State no matter where life took him.

What is most important is that he lived a full life, surrounded by dear friends and family. It is my hope that his loved ones are able to find peace, strength, and support in one another. I extend my condolences to Mary Jarvis Currence and their children, Dick, Nancy, Sallie, and Thomas, their grandchildren, Kiera, Devlin, Aidan, Jamie, and Beth, as well as to George's many dear friends and extended family. I know he is looking down on all of you with a smile. I am honored to join each of you in honoring George's memory, as well as the unwavering love he had for his family, our great Nation, and our home State.●

TRIBUTE TO DAN O'NEILL

• Mr. MERKLEY. Madam President, Robert F. Kennedy once said: "We want to make sure that we bequeath to our descendants a better and safer world than the one in which we live today." For nearly four decades, Dan O'Neill has dedicated himself to creating that better, safer world for future generations. As he prepares to step back from his work and enjoy a much-deserved retirement, I want to share a few thoughts about this wonderful individual.

As a young man volunteering for an NGO in Africa, Europe, and the Middle East, Dan came face to face with some of the worst that humankind has to offer: extreme poverty, oppression, famine, and war. At first, he documented these horrors in photos, articles, and journals, until one day when he decided he couldn't just watch anymore. In the face of relentless horror and carnage, specifically the brutal genocide in Cambodia and coverage of the Khmer Rouge Killing Fields, Dan's conscience wouldn't allow him to just