platform communication and teaming between Apache, unmanned aerial systems (UAS), and other interoperable aircraft and ground platforms. It provides the ability to display real-time UAS sensor information and MTADs full motion video feeds across MUM–T equipped platforms and ground stations.

l. The M299 Missile Launcher, commonly known as the Longbow Hellfire Launcher (LBHL), is a four rail launcher designed to carry the complete family of AGM–114 Hellfire missiles.

m. The AGM–114R Hellfire is a semi-active laser guided missile with a multi-purpose warhead that can engage and defeat both high and heavily armored targets, personnel, bunkers, caves and urban structures.

n. The Hellfire M36E9 Captive Air Training Missile (CATM) is a flight-training missile that consists of a functional guidance section coupled to an inert missile bus. It functions like a tactical missile during captive carry on the aircraft, absent launch capability, making it suitable for training the aircrew in simulated Hellfire missile target acquisition and lock.

o. The M261 2.75 Inch Rocket Launcher is a nineteen tube, three zone rocket launcher utilized on heavy attack aircraft. It is used to fire the Hydra 70 2.75 inch rocket, an unguided, fin-stabilized air-to-ground rocket that utilizes a variety of warhead and fuze combinations to achieve a range of effects.

p. The AGR–20A Advanced Precision Kill Weapons System (APKWS) is a conversion of the 2.75 inch Hydra 70 rocket which adds a laser guidance kit to enable precision targeting.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. 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.

4. A determination has been made that the Government of 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.

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. 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. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0M–21. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(l) AECA certification 15–21 of May 4, 2015.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0M–21

Report Of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec 36(B)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Singapore.

(ii) Sec 36(b)(1) AECA Transmittal No: 15–21; Date: May 4, 2015.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On May 4, 2015, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 15–21, of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of the upgrade of 60 F–16C/D/D+ aircraft. Also included were fifty (50) Joint Helmet-Mounted Cueing Systems; ninety (90) AN/APX–126 Advanced Identification Friend or Foe Interrogator/Transponders; one hundred fifty (150) LAU–129 Missile Launchers; eight (8) KMU–572/B 500lbs Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) Tail Kits; nine (9) KMU–556/B 2000lbs JDAM Tail Kits; two (2) FMU–152 Munition Fuze Units; ten (10) MK–82 500lbs Inert Bombs; three (3) MK–84 2000lbs Inert Bombs; twelve (12) LN–260 Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation Systems (GPS/INS); twenty (20) GBU–39/B Small Diameter Bombs (SDB); ninety-two (92) Link-16 Multifunctional Information Distribution System/Low Volume Terminals (MIDS/LVT); two (2) SDB Guided Test Vehicles; Computer Control Group and Tail Assembly for GBU–49; DSU–38/40 Proximity Sensor for JDAM; GBU–39 Tactical Training Round; ADU–890/E and 891 Adaptor Group for Common Munitions Built-In-Test/Reprogramming Equipment; Encryption/Decryption device; MIDS/LVT Ground Support Station; spare and repair parts; repair and return; support equipment; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; tool and test equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and othe related elements of program and logistics support. The estimated total cost was $130 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constitued $85 million of this total.

This transmittal reports the addition of up to sixty (60) Link–16 Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS) Low Volume Terminal–6 (LVT) Block Upgrade–2 (BU–2). Additionally, this transmittal reports the inclusion of MIDS LVT–6 BU–2 hardware sets; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total MDE value will increase to $92.4 million. The total case value will increase to $133.4 million.

(iv) Significance: This notification is provided since the additional MDE items were not enumerated in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents and increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed articles and services will support Singapore's modernization and interoperability with U.S. and allied forces.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a strategic partner that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Asia. These articles will contribute to the modernization of the Republic of Singapore Air Forces (RSAF) fighter aircraft, improve the RSAF's capability to conduct self-defense and regional security missions, and enhance its inteoperability with the United States.

(v) Sensitivity of Technology: The MIDS LVT–6 BU–2 is a secure, jam-resistant communication and positioning software defined radio system. MIDS LVT–6 BU–2 provides Link 16 capability, associated secure voice, and Tactical Air Navigation (TACAN) capabilities to allow for interoperable tactical messages across platforms. This variant ensures the MIDS-LVT terminals remain interoperable with U.S. allied forces and serves as an upgrade to the previous MIDS terminal version.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 3, 2021.

UNITED STATES INNOVATION AND COMPETITION ACT OF 2021

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, the U.S. Senate passed the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act of 2021. This comprehensive legislation includes the Endless Frontier Act as Division B. The Endless Frontier Act will establish a new Directorate of Technology and Innovation at the National Science Foundation, NSF, focused on research and development in 10 key technology focus areas, which include ''biotechnology, medical technology, genomics, and synthetic biology.''

Although the NSF funds minimal research involving human embryos, it is absolutely critical for the proposed new Directorate of Technology and Innovation and the NSF as an institution to protect human life and to prohibit research that would create or destroy human embryos. First enacted in 1996, the Dickey-Wicker amendment incorporated into annual appropriations bills ensures that such protections apply to research funded by the National Institutes of Health, NIH.

The NSF reports that it applies all NIH guidelines, including the Dickey-Wicker amendment, to its research. The Chief of Government Affairs at NSF, Mr. Robert Moller, confirmed this in an email to my staff dated May 16, 2021:

NSF supports very little human embryonic stem cell research. NSF incorporates the NIH Guidelines for Human Stem Cell Research through our award Terms and Conditions, which govern, among other things, the allowable uses for NSF funds. Those NIH guidelines clearly address the Dickey Wicker

amendment in Section V. As NSF incorporates this guidance, it also incorporates the Dickey-Wicker amendment and its restrictions.

It is clear from NSF's response and a review of the research terms and conditions that are binding on awardees that NIH guidelines, including Dickey-Wickery protections, apply to NSF-funded research. Since nothing in the Endless Frontier Act or the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act modifies these legal protections, it is therefore the clear intent of the Senate that the protections for human life afforded by the Dickey-Wicker amendment continue to apply to the NSF.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

100TH STATE ANNUAL SINGING CONVENTION

• Mr. TILLIS. Madam President. I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the State Annual Singing Convention in Benson, North Carolina.

The Sing will be celebrating its centennial June 25 to 27, 2021 in the Benson Singing Grove with some of the biggest names in southern gospel music. Local choirs, gospel groups, and recording artists from near and far will be sharing their talents and memories of the Sing throughout the years.

Prior to 1921, choirs would assemble on fifth Sundays in early summer to sing in Benson. Whether in an open field or under a brush arbor, large crowds would come to hear these glorious choirs. Mr. Simon Honeycutt, a regular attendee, conceived of the idea for a singing convention and reached out to four other men—Mr. T.C. Miller, Mr. J.B. Raynor, Mr. J.V. Barefoot, and Mr. J.H. Rose—to help organize the event. The first State Annual Singing Convention was held in a tobacco warehouse in 1921. A silver cup was awarded to the best all-around group, along with prizes for the best quartette and duet. Impartial judges had to be found from a great distance away, and picnic baskets filled a table 110 feet in length as 200 people came to enjoy the wonderful singing.

After a fire destroyed the tobacco warehouse in 1922, a new location for the Sing was found in an oak-shaded grove at the center of town. This land was donated by Miss Catherine Benson, a member of the family for which the town is named. In its early years, a temporary stage was constructed and lumber stacked on pine blocks served as seating, These materials were borrowed from a local sawmill and returned at the conclusion of the Sing. permanent stage in the center of the grove was dedicated in 1950, thanks to town merchants and patrons of the Singing Convention. Folding chairs have now replaced the early lumber-on-block seating. The Singing Grove would fill to capacity long before the singing started as people reunited with old friends and relatives, caught up on the latest news, and forgot about their worries as their souls were lifted through song. For those not able to attend in person, local radio stations allowed listeners to tune in and for a time, the State Annual Singing Convention was broadcast to a national audience.

As the joy-filled weekend wound to an end, singers and spectators alike anxiously awaited judges tallying scores and winners being announced in several different categories. The people have changed, but the Sing remains because of a steadfast commitment to what it represents. As an early leader once wrote, ''The multitude of voices blend in 'God be with you till we meet again' to reassure the world that there will always be a song of love in the hearts of God's people everywhere. That is the faith of the State Annual Singing Convention.''

It is my honor to commemorate this notable centennial. The State Annual Singing onvention has nurtured countless souls through song and is a testament to the faith of those who carry on its legacy. I extend my congratulations and best wishes for the next 100 years.•

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–17. A joint resolution adopted by the legislature of the State of Colorado rescinding all resolutions, memorials, or other enactments previously passed by the Colorado General Assembly or either house thereof petitioning United States Congress for a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21–1006

Whereas, The Colorado General Assembly has made applications to the United States Congress to call one or more conventions to propose amendments concerning specific subjects to the United States Constitution, pursuant to Article V thereof; and

Whereas, There has not been an Article V joint application made by the Colorado General Assembly in over 25 years, and since that time Colorado has nearly doubled in population and our laws and resolutions should keep pace with progress in our state; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-third General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

That all resolutions, memorials, or other enactments previously passed by the Colorado General Assembly or either house thereof petitioning Congress for a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution shall be rescinded, cancelled, voided, nullified, and superseded upon passage of this resolution. Be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent, within 30 days of passage, to the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Senate, and each member of the Colorado Congressional delegation; and be it further

Resolved, That the members of the Colorado General Assembly request that this Joint Resolution be published in the Congressional Record and listed in the official tally of state legislative applications relating to calling for the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution.

POM–18. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia urging the United States Congress to call a convention of the states, under the authority reserved to the states in Article V of the United States Constitution, limited to proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives or as a member of the United States Senate; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

Whereas, The Legislature of West Virginia hereby makes an application to Congress, as provided by Article V of the Constitution of the United States, to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives, and to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States Senate; and

Whereas, This application shall be considered as covering the same subject matter as the applications from other states to Congress to call a convention to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected to the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States and the Senate of the United States; and this application shall be aggregated with same for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require Congress to call a limited convention on this subject. but shall not be aggregated with any other applications on any other subject; and

Whereas, This application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject; therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Legislature hereby urges Congress to call a convention of the states, under the authority reserved to the states in Article V of the United States Constitution, limited to proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives or as a member of the United States Senate; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to the President and Secretary of the Senate of the United States and to the Speaker, Clerk, and Judiciary Committee Chairman of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, and copies to the members of the said Senate and House of Representatives from this state; also to forward copies thereof to the presiding officers of each of the legislative houses in the several states, requesting their cooperation.

POM–19. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to American Rescue Plan Act relief funds; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted: