

equipment; training; U.S. Government technical and logistical support, contractor technical support, and other associated equipment and services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$691 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally that continues to be an important strategic partner in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will enhance Egypt's capability to strengthen its homeland defense by replenishing its stocks. The missiles will be used for counter-terrorism and border security against armored threats and fortified positions. Egypt will have no difficulty absorbing these additional missiles into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Missiles & Defense, Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements 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 Egypt.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-33

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. The Radio Frequency TOW 2A (RF) Missile (BGM-71-4B-RF) is a direct attack missile designed to defeat armored vehicles, reinforced urban structures, field fortification and other such targets. TOW Missiles are fired from a variety of TOW Launchers in the U.S. Army, USMC, and FMS partner forces. The TOW 2A RF missile can be launched from the same launcher platforms as the existing wire-guided TOW 2A missile without modification to the launcher. The TOW 2A missile (both wire and RF) contains two tracker beacons (Xenon and thermal) for the launcher to track and guide the missile in flight. Guidance commands from the launcher are provided to the missile by the RF link contained within the missile case.

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 Egypt 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 have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Egypt.

#### NOTICE OF A TIE VOTE UNDER S. RES. 27

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter in the RECORD.

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

U.S. SENATE, COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS,

Washington, DC, May 25, 2022.

To the Secretary of the Senate:

PN1938, the nomination of Kalpana Kotagal, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, having been referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Committee, with a quorum present, has voted on the nomination as follows—

On the question of reporting the nomination without recommendation, 11 ayes to 11 noes.

In accordance with section 3, paragraph (1)(A) of S. Res. 27 of the 117th Congress, I hereby give notice that the Committee has not reported the nomination because of a tie vote, and ask that this notice be printed in the Record pursuant to the resolution.

PATTY MURRAY,

Chair.

#### CONFIRMATION OF BRIDGET A. BRINK

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I opposed the confirmation of Bridget Brink to be U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine because of her support for the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO. Ambassador Brink believes in expanding NATO to any country who would like to join, including Ukraine.

An important part of diplomacy is understanding your adversary. When I questioned Ambassador Brink about the eastern expansion of NATO, however, she expressed her belief that Russian President Vladimir Putin merely uses the NATO question as a pretext for actions he would take anyway. I strongly disagree. We must evaluate our leaders' actions, as well as the actions of our adversaries, on the world stage.

Putin is an aggressor and must be condemned, but we cannot allow our revulsion for his invasions to blind us to the fact that our adversaries react to the actions of the West. For years, Putin stated that any attempt to expand NATO to Russia's borders would be perceived as a direct threat. Fifteen years ago, Putin asked, "Against whom is this expansion intended?" Yet, a year later in 2008, NATO promised that Ukraine and Georgia would one day join the alliance. Russia's invasions of Georgia and Ukraine are not a coincidence, but I left my meeting with Ambassador Brink believing that she is not willing to reflect upon the actions of the West and how they would be viewed by Russian eyes.

Putin has no justification for embarking on a war and invading another country. I fully support the Ukrainians in their fight against Russia. Russia's brutal use of its military to achieve its objectives is unacceptable. But we must understand the reasons why he chose to invade in the first place.

When the Cold War ended, the United States had the benefit of the wisdom of foreign policy officials who took Rus-

sia seriously. George Kennan warned that NATO expansion would ignite a new cold war. Henry Kissinger proposed a peaceful coexistence in which Ukraine pursued a policy of neutrality, with one foot in the West and one foot in the East. Jack Matlock, our Ambassador to the Soviet Union from 1987 to 1991, called the current crisis "predictable" and, in 1997, warned Congress that he believed that NATO expansion "could well encourage a chain of events that could produce the most serious security threat to this nation since the Soviet Union collapsed."

Those wise voices are either gone or retired. Had we listened to their warnings, today's crisis might have been averted. But the State Department is now filled with officials who refuse to listen to adversaries or consider how our actions may make peace more difficult to obtain.

Although I opposed the confirmation of Bridget Brink to be Ambassador to Ukraine, I wish her luck in representing the United States and finding a path to a peaceful end to the conflict.

#### TRIBUTE TO CRAIG MCLEAN

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the public service of Craig McLean who retired in April after a distinguished 40-year career within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA. Within NOAA, Mr. McLean was as a dedicated leader, advocating for science to advance NOAA's mission to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, ocean, and coasts.

Mr. McLean has a deep dedication to our oceans and waterways, garnered from growing up along the Passaic River in Rutherford, NJ. As a child, he took a small boat out on the Passaic. As a teenager, he learned to dive and performed decompression diving in order to explore deep-ocean shipwrecks. These experiences helped inspire his career.

Mr. McLean began his NOAA career in 1981 as a uniformed officer in the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps and served for nearly 25 years before retiring at the rank of captain. During that time, he was instrumental to the founding of the NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, OER. Later, during his 16 years as a Federal executive, he provided continued leadership in driving forward mapping of U.S. waters to advance oceanographic scientific knowledge and discover deep ocean secrets including new species, historical shipwrecks, and undersea mountains. His leadership underlies OER's astounding accomplishments including mapping 2 million square kilometers and collecting ocean data in the waters of 16 countries and the high seas. This work contributed to key conservation decisions for vital marine habitats.

Most recently, Mr. McLean served as Assistant Administrator for NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research—OAR—for more than 6 years,

leading an enterprise of 10 Federal laboratories across the country and six major programs performing vital research to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, ocean, and coasts for the benefit of the Nation. Mr. McLean's preeminent leadership of OAR enabled vital advancements, including improved forecasting of weather extremes such as hurricanes, winter storms, extreme precipitation, and drought as well as a greatly increased understanding of the Earth's climate system. His leadership has enabled NOAA to better prepare society in order to reduce the severe impacts of these events on life and property.

On the international stage, as the U.S. Representative to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization—UNESCO—Mr. McLean's skillful collaborative approach helped advance U.S. scientific goals and garnered support from our partners in ocean observing around the world. He helped broker consensus for global biogeochemical ocean sensors, known as Argo, which enabled a \$53 million international commitment to expand deployments to improve ocean health and climate forecasting. Through this role, Mr. McLean served as a leader for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, championing this global undertaking to provide a common framework that ensures ocean science can support countries and achieve the United Nations' 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Finally, I want to acknowledge Mr. McLean's commitment to scientific integrity within NOAA. During the last administration, he boldly stepped forward as a complainant when NOAA experienced political interference, putting himself at risk to uphold scientific integrity and the Agency's reputation. He also served as the Department of Commerce representative on the National Science and Technology Council Fast-Track Action Committee on Scientific Integrity where he cochaired a working group to provide responsive outcomes for the Presidential Memorandum on Restoring Trust in Government Through Scientific Integrity and Evidence-Based Policymaking. NOAA's science and the Agency's integrity has been made stronger through Mr. McLean's commitment and leadership on this issue.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire, I thank Craig McLean for his decades of excellent service to our Nation and wish him well in his retirement. I hope he enjoys the chance to take his family out on the water more in retirement and enjoys the oceans he has championed throughout his career.

#### TRIBUTE TO VICE ADMIRAL ROBERT D. SHARP

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of myself, Vice Chairman RUBIO, Senator BLUNT, and all

members of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence to recognize the service and accomplishments of VADM Robert D. Sharp and congratulate him on his upcoming retirement. His leadership and vision drove the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency—NGA—to deliver support to a wide array of customers while simultaneously transforming its operating procedures and business practices. As Director of NGA, Vice Admiral Sharp ensured that timely, relevant, and accurate geospatial intelligence was provided to policymakers, warfighters, first responders, the intelligence community, and the congressional intelligence oversight committees.

A veteran of the war in Afghanistan and the Gulf War, Vice Admiral Sharp served our country during a highly decorated 34-year career with the U.S. Navy, receiving two Bronze Stars, the Legion of Merit, two Defense Superior Service Medals, and the Navy Distinguished Service Medal.

Vice Admiral Sharp's service included operational deployments with USS *Ranger* (CV61), Carrier Air Wing 2 embarked on USS *Constellation* (CV 64), and Carrier Group 2 embarked on USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75). Additionally, in 2016, Vice Admiral Sharp was tasked with serving as commander, Office of Naval Intelligence, and director, National Maritime Intelligence-Integration Office.

Vice Admiral Sharp culminated his distinguished career as the seventh director of the NGA. In this capacity he also served as the intelligence community's functional manager for GEOINT, head of the National System for Geospatial Intelligence, and chair of the Allied System for Geospatial Intelligence.

As NGA director, Vice Admiral Sharp led 14,500 military, civilian, and contractor women and men with care, compassion, and resourcefulness during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. As the government shifted to maximize telework, NGA found new and innovative ways to meet mission demands while ensuring the safety of the workforce and, simultaneously, significantly improving the morale of the workforce.

Vice Admiral Sharp managed the multibillion-dollar annual operating budget of the Agency, including the construction of a new, state-of-the-art \$1.7 billion NGA-West campus in downtown St. Louis, which includes the Senator Roy Blunt Geospatial Learning Center. This innovative facility will be a model for the IC in the future. Under Admiral Sharp's leadership, the agency has maintained a constructive and productive relationship with the city, the local community, academia, and the private sector, marking St. Louis—now alongside Springfield, VA—as a leader in the GEOINT community.

Vice Admiral Sharp also directed the use of new technology and commercial capabilities to meet steadily increasing demands of the customer base for

trusted GEOINT with speed, accuracy, and precision—while working to keep ahead of the speed of change occurring in GEOINT inside and outside government and around the globe. The importance to the Nation—and the world—of the ability to utilize new commercial GEOINT capabilities has recently been made clear during Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine. Vice Admiral Sharp also refocused investment in great power competition and emphasized the importance of assured positioning, navigation, timing, and targeting.

Throughout his tenure at NGA, Vice Admiral Sharp focused attention on a whole-of-enterprise approach by expanding and deepening relations with partners across the enterprise. In particular, he has fostered increased engagement with colleges and universities and promoted geographic literacy and STEM education in K-12 institutions. NGA has an active CRADA with the University of Virginia and open source intelligence partnerships with William and Mary University and Virginia Tech. NGA has also signed educational partnership agreements with Harris Stowe State University, a historically Black university in St. Louis; University of Missouri St. Louis, the most diverse public research institution in the St. Louis area; and Galaudet University, in Washington, DC, the Nation's premier university for deaf and hard of hearing students. These initiatives are representative of Vice Admiral Sharp's career-long commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Vice Admiral Sharp's tenure at NGA was marked by strong leadership and dedication to mission. He inspired a workforce to remain committed to the mission while rapidly transforming with changes in technology and tradecraft during an unprecedented time in the history of the nation. His leadership of NGA and his decades of service to our country displayed honor, courage, and commitment. We congratulate Vice Admiral Sharp on his retirement and thank him for his service to our country.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO EDWARD B. GARONE

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I rise today to thank and pay tribute to the service of Derry Police Chief Edward Garone.

For more than 50 years, Chief Garone has served with dedication and has worked to keep the people of Derry and people throughout the Granite State safe.

Throughout it all, Chief Garone has worked tirelessly to ensure public safety—the most fundamental task of any government—creating the stability necessary for our people, families, and economy, to thrive.

After bravely serving our country in the Marines, Chief Garone began his