

something they want changed, something they want improved, something that disagrees with the official line of the Communist Party.

She is in poor health, as indicated by the fact that when she was arrested, they had an ambulance outside. Actually, the ambulance was outside where the trial was held. She suffers from heart disease, hypertension, and hyperthyroidism, and her long time behind bars has made things worse. Staff at the detention center where she had been held reportedly instructed other inmates to urinate on her food, deny her hot water for showers, deny medical treatment, and threaten to beat her to death—because she was a human rights advocate.

In March of 2018, almost 4 years ago, Li went on a hunger strike to protest her mistreatment, which led detention center officials to force-feed her.

Like many others, Li Yuhua had the courage to stand up for what is right, and she is mercilessly persecuted for doing so.

These various individuals and the way that they are treated are the kinds of abuses that will be going on at the same time as the Winter Olympic Games are held in China. Figure skaters fly across the ice, and while they do so, Li Yuhua will continue to suffer in custody for standing up for human rights. Bobsledders will careen down the track at lightning-fast speeds; Chow Hang-tung will continue to be punished for trying to ensure his cultural history is remembered. As skiers race down the slalom slopes, Go Sherab Gyatso and Rinchen Kyi will still be locked up for sharing and defending their culture.

As athlete after athlete climbs the podium to have beautiful bronze, silver, and gold medals around their necks, Mahire Yakup and Mirzat Taher will go on languishing in prison cells for the crime of being born in the Uighur community.

That is the backdrop of this year's Beijing Olympic Games—human rights abuses, genocide, the destruction of freedom and democracy. And we cannot allow that to be ignored or overshadowed. We cannot allow for that to be forgotten in the glitz and glamour of Olympic Gold. We cannot let these names and these faces and countless, countless others who have faced the same be lost in the shadows of the flames of the Olympic torch.

The world must join together to say to the International Olympic Committee that never again can the perpetrators of human rights abuses be allowed to host a treasured event like the Olympic Games. Never again can the athletes of the world ask to be essentially conspirators in the glitz and glamour of covering up genocide.

And, for all of us, we need to remind the world throughout these games of what is going on in China. Do not let the Chinese Government succeed in having the world forget about their massive human rights violations—their

genocide, their torture, their elimination, their imprisonment, their complete crushing of the rights of people of Tibet and Hong Kong, the complete destruction of the right to speech and the right to religion within their country, the complete obliteration of the human spirit. We cannot allow all that to be forgotten during these Olympic Games.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in 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.

### CHINESE INFLUENCE IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, before the holidays, the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, USCC, released its 2021 Report to Congress. As is customary, the report reflects a bipartisan consensus, with unanimous support from the 11-member commission. It includes 32 recommendations to the Congress, each of which is worth serious consideration, especially in light of the announcement that Chinese President Xi Jinping will rule for at least another 5 years.

This is not the first time that I have spoken about China and the importance of increasing our Nation's competitiveness. I think we all recognize that it is an issue that impacts, directly or indirectly, the lives of every American. Today, I want to call attention to China's expansionist foreign policy, particularly one section of the USCC's report that discusses Chinese investments in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Chinese foreign policy has become increasingly bold, with goals that are both economic and political. China's economic goals are twofold: increasing access to raw materials while developing new markets for Chinese products. China has supported growth in parts of Latin America by financing mining, transportation, electric power generation, large scale agriculture, and other infrastructure projects.

However, there is a dark side to this increased investment and trade. Countries' reliance on commodity exports and China's control over supply chains strengthen China's influence in Latin American and Caribbean economies. With so much of these countries' economies dependent on continued trade and positive diplomatic relations with China, it is no wonder that we see some governments bypassing regulatory standards in order to obtain fur-

ther investment opportunities. This increased dependence can undermine democratic institutions, weaken environmental and social safeguards, and encourage corruption and violations of human rights. The Chinese Communist Party is promoting its own political agenda by supporting authoritarian regimes, promoting pro-China media, and strong-arming governments into isolating Taiwan.

The USCC makes five recommendations to counter these trends: first, respond to Chinese economic, diplomatic, and security initiatives by expanding U.S. funding mechanisms for infrastructure projects, the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, and educational exchanges; second, increase support for governments in Latin America and the Caribbean to create foreign investment review processes and require the Department of State to report to Congress on progress; third, require the Director of National Intelligence, Department of State, and Department of Defense to submit an unclassified report detailing the implications of Chinese investment in port infrastructure, Chinese military presence at such ports, and the potential for leveraging such ports for Chinese military purposes in the future; fourth, require that all applications for U.S. foreign assistance include a disclosure of debt owed to Chinese entities; and finally, create a partnership between coastal Latin American countries and U.S. Government authorities identified in the Maritime Security and Fisheries Enforcement Act to increase maritime domain awareness and combat illegal Chinese fishing.

I urge the administration to consult with Congress on a path forward to implement each of these recommendations.

The Senate's fiscal year 2022 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill includes \$653.8 million for assistance for the countries of Central America, including \$100 million for localized development in the Northern Triangle. Additional funds are included for economic and security assistance for the Caribbean countries. We must support programs in these countries that prioritize the well-being of their citizens, protect their national sovereignty, and encourage fair trade and investment by supporting community policing, maritime security, energy independence, elementary and secondary education, anti-gang programs, employment opportunities, programs to improve government transparency and accountability, and by strengthening civil society. These are long-term investments, but they will provide the most effective alternatives to Chinese influence.

### SOUTH SUDAN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, on January 6, 2022, I made a statement about the extreme hardships and insecurity that are a daily reality for the people

of South Sudan, despite independence 10 years ago that held so much promise and hope for that country. That independence came as a result of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, which took years of negotiations facilitated by the United States, Norway, and the United Kingdom, and it provided a roadmap for political stability, economic development, respect for human rights, and justice.

Since then, two former warlords, President Kiir and Vice President Machar, who were never elected, have dominated the political landscape in South Sudan. It is they, throughout these critically important formative years, who have had the executive power and the responsibility to transform the aspirations of independence into tangible improvements in the lives of their people. Ten years later, it is fair to ask a simple question: What have they done?

I would answer that question with these questions:

After ten years, is South Sudan a country at peace where the rights of the people are respected and their basic needs, such as safe water, sanitation, food, shelter, and health care are being met?

Has South Sudan's vast oil wealth been invested wisely in public infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, public transportation, roads, and bridges after decades of civil war?

Is the country's agricultural economy expanding and reaching new markets?

Are children in school and are teachers receiving a decent salary?

Are South Sudan's youth, who make up a majority of the population, able to find jobs?

Do the security forces have the training, equipment, food, and barracks they need to maintain the peace, and are soldiers and officers receiving adequate pay?

Are government ministries led and staffed by trained and honest professionals?

Is the Parliament defending the people's interests?

Is the judiciary independent, and the courts accessible and trusted by the people? Have those who committed crimes against humanity and other gross violations of human rights been prosecuted and punished?

Have the many thousands of South Sudanese refugees and internally displaced been able to return home to rebuild their lives?

Is civic space being protected so civil society activists and independent journalists can function without fear of harassment or threats?

Has the necessary work been done to create the conditions for transparent, free, and fair elections in which candidates from all political parties can participate?

Has sustained progress been made in any of these areas?

I think the answers are obvious, and the people of South Sudan know the answers. Despite billions of dollars in international aid and billions of dollars in oil revenues, the government of South Sudan has failed every test.

Today, South Sudan ranks as among the world's most corrupt country and, despite its oil wealth, one of the hungriest country in the world.

We should remember that the Republic of South Sudan would not exist were it not for the sacrifice of millions of South Sudanese who gave their lives in the fight for independence. But it is

also a fact that had it not been for the support of the United States, South Sudan would not be a Republic today.

I have been a U.S. Senator for 47 years, so I remember when South Sudan existed only in people's dreams. I remember when John Garang would visit the U.S. Congress seeking support. He was an inspiring leader, and we supported him. I supported him. And we welcomed South Sudan's hard-fought independence.

But since John Garang's tragic death in 2005, we have seen how greed and personal ambition can thwart the aspirations of an entire population.

The January 21 response of the office of the President of the Republic of South Sudan to my statement of January 6 was as revealing as it was predictable.

The office of the President accuses me of calling for "regime change through uprising and violence." Anyone who read my statement, as the author of that accusation surely did, knows it to be absurd on its face. There is not a single word in my statement that remotely suggests what the office of the President accuses me of. Their resort to fabrication and intimidation is the all-too-common tactic of governments to deflect attention from their own failures. We have seen it even in our own country.

The people of South Sudan have experienced far too much war, far too much violence, far too much displacement, far too much insecurity, and far too much hunger and misery. The last thing they need or want is more violence, and nothing I have said would suggest otherwise.

There are countless examples. Just a few days ago, on January 23, 5 kilometers from Bor, the capital of Jonglei State, armed militia reportedly slaughtered 35 and injured 17 civilians, including women and children. Property was looted, and huts were burned down. The people of South Sudan know too well that these violent acts are orchestrated or condoned by the country's leaders. In a letter dated November 25, 2020, addressed to the President of the U.N. Security Council from the Panel of Experts on South Sudan, they reported the following:

Political and security disputes within President Kiir's coalition have contributed to conflicts that have killed and displaced civilians in Jonglei and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area. Rival factions within the Government supplied weapons to various ethnic militias from the Government's stockpile. Between May and August, eight humanitarian staff were killed, humanitarian facilities were looted and destroyed, and thousands of civilians were displaced at a time of widespread flooding in Jonglei and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area.

The killings on January 23 were part of the same pattern, yet those who bear responsibility for these attacks accuse advocates for peaceful change of promoting violence.

Rather than falsely accuse me and South Sudanese civil society organizations that have repeatedly dem-

onstrated their commitment to non-violence, the government should put a stop to these attacks and ask itself the questions I have posed.

It should also reflect on the fact that U.S. S. Res. 380 passed unanimously, with the support of 100 U.S. Senators, Democrats and Republicans, less than 2 months ago. I remind the office of the President what we said:

Whereas despite years of fighting, widespread suffering of South Sudanese civilians, punitive actions by the international community, and 2 peace agreements, the leaders of South Sudan have failed to build sustainable peace, and critical provisions of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict [R-ARCSS] . . . remain unimplemented;

Whereas the leaders of South Sudan have consistently failed to uphold their responsibilities to create the conditions for peace and prosperity, have prioritized self-preservation and corruption over the needs of the people they represent, have acted in bad faith in the implementation of cease fire and peace agreements, and have betrayed the cause of freedom, resulting in the loss of millions of lives; and

Whereas South Sudan has not held an election since its independence and the current leaders of South Sudan were appointed or installed through transitional arrangements based on peace agreements.

That Resolution also urged the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury:

(A) to prioritize investigations into illicit financial flows fueling violence in South Sudan;

(B) to work with the Secretary of State to update, on a regular basis, the list of individuals and entities designated under the South Sudan sanctions program, including individuals at the highest levels of leadership in South Sudan and from within the National Security Service; and

(C) to coordinate, in cooperation with the Secretary of State, with the United Kingdom and the European Union on South Sudan-related sanctions designations and enforcement.

So rather than make up falsehoods about those asking such questions, including me, the People's Coalition for Civil Action, and other South Sudanese activists and organizations that want nothing more than for the promise of the R-ARCSS to be realized so the people of South Sudan can enjoy the security and prosperity they are entitled to, I urge President Kiir and Vice President Machar to put their country first.

Rather than falsely accusing others of violence or resorting to provocations to create a pretext for persecuting and silencing them, they should listen to them. They should listen to the voices of the people, expressed in the National Dialogue, that South Sudan needs a new beginning.

Rather than claim to have taken significant steps to put South Sudan's failing economy on a solid footing, which fools no one, they should open up the government's books so people can see the receipts and expenditures.

Rather than hide behind the R-ARCSS to preserve the status quo, they should implement it in letter and spirit, including by unifying rival security

forces, by promulgating a new constitution, and by opening up the political space in the country.

Rather than make excuses to delay elections as they have repeatedly done before, they should set a date, in accordance with the R-ARCSS, for national and Parliamentary elections, and they should support a roadmap for creating the necessary conditions for the refugees to return and for multiparty democratic elections to succeed with the support of the army. And without delay, they should declare their unconditional commitment not to contest the next election and to relinquish power as soon as South Sudan's newly elected leaders take office.

The sad reality is that while the South Sudanese people won their independence from Sudan, they remain captives of the same ruthless and corrupt warlords who created so much ethnic conflict, bloodshed, and misery during the civil war and who have not been held accountable.

They simply reinvented themselves as political leaders, with a stamp of legitimacy from the international community, while continuing to act like the warlords they are and always were.

They have shown no interest in implementing the R-ARCSS or any other peace agreement.

They have shown no interest in the welfare of their people.

They have shown no interest in anything except holding onto power, avoiding justice, and enriching themselves.

It is time to listen to the people of South Sudan and for the United States to reassess its policy toward South Sudan. The White House and the State Department need to recognize that the status quo in South Sudan has been a dead end for years and consult with Congress on a new way forward. As a first step, the U.S. should use the authorities that already exist, including the Global Magnitsky Act, to sanction key officials in South Sudan's National Security Service, which has long functioned as a criminal enterprise that engages in extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detention, torture, and other heinous crimes.

Real peace requires justice, and it requires respect for fundamental rights regardless of ethnicity, race, or religion. It requires free and fair elections and equitable economic development. These should be at the heart of our policy.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. 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 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)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-26 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Egypt for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$2.2 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

JEDIDIAH P. ROYAL,  
(for James A. Hursch, Director)

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-26

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 Egypt.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:  
Major Defense Equipment\* \$1.6 billion.  
Other \$0.6 billion.

Total \$2.2 billion.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing (FMF)

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twelve (12) C-130J Super Hercules Aircraft with Four (4) each Rolls Royce AE-2100D Turboprop Engines (installed).

Twelve (12) Rolls Royce AE-2100D Turbo-prop Engines (spares).

Thirty (30) Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) with GPS Security Devices (including 6 spares).

Seven (7) Multifunctional Information Distribution System—Low Volume Terminal Block Upgrade Two (MIDS-LVT BU2) (including 3 spares).

Non-MDE: Also included are AN/APX-119 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Transponders; AN/AAR-47 Missile Warning Systems (MWS); AN/ALE-47 Countermeasures Dispensing System (CMDS); AN/ALR-56M Radar Warning Receiver (RWR); AN/AAQ-22 (STAR SAFIRE 380); secure communications, cryptographic equipment, and GPS-aided precision navigation equipment; publications and technical documentation; software and mission critical resources; aircraft support and equipment; unclassified return and repair; integration and testing; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (EG-D-SAD).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: January 25, 2022.

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

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Egypt—C-130J-30 Super Hercules Aircraft

The Government of Egypt has requested to purchase twelve (12) C-130J Super Hercules aircraft with four (4) each Rolls Royce AE-2100D Turboprop Engines (installed); twelve (12) Rolls Royce AE-2100D Turboprop Engines (spares); thirty (30) Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) with GPS Security Devices (including 6 spares); and seven (7) Multifunctional Information Distribution System—Low Volume Terminal Block Upgrade Two (MIDS-LVT BU2) (including 3 spares). Also included are AN/APX-119 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Transponders; AN/AAR-47 Missile Warning Systems (MWS); AN/ALE-47 Countermeasures Dispensing System (CMDS); AN/ALR-56M Radar Warning Receiver (RWR); AN/AAQ-22 (STAR SAFIRE 380); secure communications, cryptographic equipment, and GPS-aided precision navigation equipment; publications and technical documentation; software and mission critical resources; aircraft support and equipment; unclassified return and repair; integration and testing; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total program cost is \$2.2 billion.

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 improve Egypt's capability to meet current and future threats by providing airlift support for its forces by moving supplies, equipment, and people, thus strengthening its capacity in the security and humanitarian arena. This airlift capability would assist with border security, the interdiction of known terrorist elements, rapid reaction to internal security threats, and humanitarian aid. Egypt also intends to utilize these aircraft for maritime patrol missions and search and rescue missions in the region. Egypt, which already operates a mix of legacy C-130s, will have no difficulty absorbing these aircraft and services 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 Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company in Marietta, GA. There are no known offsets proposed in conjunction with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of two (2) contracted Field Service Representatives (FSR) and one (1) Logistic Service Representative (LSR) for a period of three (3) years. The FSRs and LSR will have expertise in airframe, avionics/electrical, propulsion systems, ground maintenance systems, and logistics support.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-26

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 C-130J-30 8.1 Super Hercules aircraft, including the Rolls Royce AE2100D turboprop engines, is a military airlift aircraft that performs primarily the tactical portion of the airlift mission. The aircraft is