

This is how the Army summed up this heroic action:

SFC Chapoton's ability to perform these heroic acts under extreme pressure while simultaneously taking control of the scene [of this horrific crash] is a testament to his [U.S.] Army values. [Fundamentally] understanding the extreme personal risk to his own life, SFC Chapoton selflessly endangered himself again and again to save American lives. He risked his own safety to help avert a catastrophic outcome. Without his selfless courage in the face of grave danger, more lives would have been lost.

So thank you, Andrew, for your bravery, your heroism, your example, not just to your friends and family or to Alaskans but to all Americans and all veterans. Thank you for protecting our Nation. Thank you for volunteering to serve. Thank you for making your home in Alaska. Thank you for your heroic actions on that day. We want to congratulate you for being awarded the U.S. Army Soldier's Medal, one of the highest honors a soldier can achieve and, certainly, Andrew, one of the highest honors you can achieve in the U.S. Senate: being our Alaskan of the Week. Great job.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, before I do the wrap-up and lay down some stuff we are doing next week, I would like to talk about the week we just had.

As Democrats here in the Senate work to continue to avoid default, the No. 1 issue affecting our country has also been a very productive week in the Senate. So much has happened around the country over the past few days that it may have overshadowed just how busy things have been in the Senate this week and the kind of productive week that we have had on many important issues that affect the American people. I am very proud of what we were able to accomplish.

On the floor, with the return of Senator FEINSTEIN, the Senate today advanced Bradley Garcia to serve as circuit court judge for the DC Circuit—one of the most important Federal courts in the country—and Members should be ready to vote on confirmation come Monday. That is probably the second-most important court in the country, and we are appointing a very good person as circuit court judge there.

Off the floor, the Judiciary Committee was busy as well. The Judiciary Committee just reported out six more judicial nominees for lifetime appointments to the Federal bench. Judges were a top priority last Congress, and they remain a top priority in this Congress. We are hoping to move forward on many more judges.

Also, yesterday, the Commerce Committee, under the able leadership of MARIA CANTWELL, also reported out the Railway Safety Act—sponsored by Senators BROWN and VANCE of Ohio—with bipartisan support. This is significant.

After the derailment of East Palestine, the need for the rail safety reform became clear as day, and Americans are demanding that the Senate take action.

The Railway Safety Act is a major step forward for avoiding accidents similar to the one in East Palestine and improving rail safety across the country. It is going to make all our railroads safer. We have all seen so many of these derailments, often because the railroads weren't doing what they were supposed to. This act is a big step forward in requiring them to do so. I look forward to working with both sides to bring the Railway Safety Act to the floor.

And, today, the Senate Banking Committee also held a hearing, a big step on our bipartisan SAFE Banking Act that we have worked on together, Mr. President.

The SAFE Banking Act would ensure cannabis businesses have equal access to critical banking infrastructure in States that have legalized cannabis. We have all heard the tales of small businesses, and even larger ones, walking around with a huge amount of cash because they can't do banking. SAFE Banking would change that and allow them to bank as other businesses because it is legal in many States.

And I am working to ensure we include criminal justice provisions in SAFE Banking Plus—most importantly, the expungement of criminal records for certain low-level marijuana offenses.

We have made a lot of good bipartisan progress on SAFE Banking last Congress. And after today's hearing, we hope there will be a markup on this bill in the near future. We are really moving forward in a record way on a very important issue.

Finally, last, but certainly not least, the HELP Committee also advanced PBM and generic drug-pricing reform. It will reform the PBM system, which we know is one of the reasons the cost of drugs is so high. Hopefully, with the reform, the cost of prescription drugs like insulin for non-Medicare Americans will come down. We reduced insulin to \$35 for those on Medicare, but we need to work on reducing insulin costs for everybody, and this bill is a major step forward in that direction.

So it has been a busy week—significant progress on many issues: judicial nominees; rail safety; SAFE Banking reform; and PBM reform, which can lower insulin costs for millions of Americans. It has been a good, strong week. And I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for moving forward.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations: all nominations placed on the Secretary's Desk in the Coast Guard; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that

the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE COAST GUARD

*PN440-1 COAST GUARD nominations (314) beginning ALAINA M. ACCUMANNO, and ending KRISTEN E. ZELMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 14, 2023.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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 in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Washington, DC.

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. OE-23. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 21-52 of July 30, 2021.

Sincerely,

MIKE MILLER
(For James A. Hursch, Director)
Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. OE-23

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Israel.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 21-52.

Date: July 30, 2021.

Implementing Agency: Navy.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing (FMF).

(iii) Description: On July 30, 2021, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 21-52 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of up to eighteen (18) CH-53K Heavy Lift Helicopters; up to sixty (60) T408-GE-400 Engines (54 installed, 6 spares); and up to thirty-six (36) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) with Selective Availability/ Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM). Also included is communication equipment; GAU-21 .50 caliber Machine Guns; Mission Planning System; facilities study, design and construction; spare and repair parts; support and test equipment; publications and technical documentation; aircrew and maintenance training; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost was \$3.4 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$2.4 billion of this total.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of the following non-MDE items: ARC-210 RT-2036(C) Radio Transmitters (RT); Advanced Data Transfer Systems (ADTS); post-production line modifications; and Containerized Flight Training Devices (CFTD) with initial Integrated Logistics Support (ILS), spares and support equipment. The estimated total cost of the new items is \$75 million. The estimated total case value will remain \$3.4 billion and the MDE cost will remain \$2.4 billion.

(iv) Significance: The proposed sale will improve Israel's capability to communicate securely across a wide spectrum with voice and data, and to conduct secure mission planning integrated across platforms and premier operational planning tools.

(v) Justification: The United States is committed to the security of Israel, and it is vital to U.S. national interests to assist Israel to develop and maintain a strong and ready self-defense capability. This proposed sale is consistent with those objectives.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The ARC-210 RT-2036(C) Radio Transmitter (RT) is networked communications airborne radio, which provides the latest and most capable software defined radio receiver-transmitter. The RT-2036(C) provides VHF/UHF open and secure voice and data communications, enabling interconnected software and network management systems. The RT also features the latest SATURN waveform technology for proven next-generation frequency-agile communications.

The Advanced Data Transfer System (ADTS) provides a next generation Video Recorder system that consolidates data transfer and recording devices, while leveraging Department of Defense technology and Department buys. ADTS provides modern data transfer devices that interface with both off and on aircraft mission planning applications and data. The system provides Moving Map, video recording integration, sensor data transfer, security (encryption and decryption), and storage with aircraft mission safety and weapon systems.

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

(vii) Date Delivered to Congress: May 10, 2023.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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 in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

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. 0F-23. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 22-60 of November 9, 2022.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0F-23

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 26(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Lithuania.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 22-06; Date: November 9, 2022; Implementing Agency: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds

(iii) Description: On November 9, 2022, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 22-60 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of eight (8) M 142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) Launchers; thirty-six (36) M30A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) Alternative Warhead (AW) Missile Pods with Insensitive Munitions Propulsion System (IMPS); thirty-six (36) M31A2 GMLRS Unitary High Explosive (HE) Missile Pods; thirty-six (36) XM403 Extended Range GMLRS (ER GMLRS) Alternative Warhead (AW) Missile Pods with IMPS; thirty-six (36) XM404 Extended Range GMLRS (ER GMLRS) Unitary Pods with IMPS; and eighteen (18) M57 Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) Missile Pods. Also included are M28A2 Low Cost Reduced Range Practice Rocket (LCRRPR) pods; International Field Artillery Tactical Data System (IFATDS); battle management system Vehicle Integration Kits; ruggedized laptops; training equipment publications for HIMARS and munitions; and

other related elements of program and logistics support. The total estimated cost was \$495 million. Major Defense Equipment (MOE) constituted \$440 million of this total.

This transmittal reports MOE that was previously reported as non-MOE: twenty-five (25) International Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems (IFATDS). The overall MOE value will remain \$440 million. The total case value will remain \$495 million.

(iv) Significance: The proposed sale will contribute to Lithuania's military goals of updating its capability while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allies. Lithuania intends to use these defense articles and services to modernize its armed forces and expand its capability to strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally that is an important force for ensuring political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: IFATDS is a multi-service (U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps) automated, expert decision support system used for command, control, communications, integration, and synchronization of fires on ground targets during all phases of military conflict. IFATDS provides the automated tools that significantly augment the capability of fire support coordinators and fire support asset commanders.

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

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 9, 2023.

ISRAEL

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, today, May 14, 2023, I want to recognize our great friend and ally, Israel, on the 75th anniversary of its independence. Israel's everlasting commitment to freedom and democracy serves as a beacon of light to freedom-loving people around the world. I am proud to support the expansion and solidifying of the Abraham Accords, to encourage normalized relations with Israel, economic prosperity, and safety for all citizens in the region. The United States and Israel share a unique bilateral relationship, and I look forward to many more years of a flourishing friendship between our two countries.

HEAD START

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the work of the Head Start providers and programs across the United States as the National Head Start Association gathers in Phoenix, AZ, for its 50th annual conference.

Since 1965, more than 37 million Americans have relied on Head Start to provide high-quality early childhood education programming to families in need. Head Start programs operate in all 50 States through a variety of models, serving families from before birth to age 5 in Early Head Start and Head Start. But it is not just children who reap the benefits of a Head Start program. Parents and families are an integral part of Head Start, whether by