

Florida, in California, in Texas, and in many other States. In each case, the need for recovery is so big that the local county or State can't manage the recovery.

That is what it means when the President declares a national disaster. It, sort of, just means it is a really big disaster. But at a technical level, what does it mean? It means that this thing is too big for county government. This thing is too big for State government.

So the President declares the disaster, and then we fund the disasters. We put money in the Disaster Relief Fund, and then FEMA can access it on behalf of whomever needs the help.

As it stands, without Congress providing additional funding to Federal Agencies that are working to respond to these disasters, aid to communities will dry up. For instance, FEMA just said that there is only \$2.4 billion remaining in its Disaster Relief Fund, and, as a result, it is delaying funding for over 1,000 long-term projects, totaling \$1.8 billion, in past disaster recovery zones in order to continue urgent work on Maui.

What do they do? When they run low, they prioritize current disasters. So they are servicing the problem on Maui, as they should be.

But anybody who had a disaster in the last couple of years—Louisiana, Texas, New Jersey, New York, California, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida—all of them have their disaster recovery money frozen. Why? Because the House of Representatives adjourned for the week without having passed a single appropriations bill, because the Senate—Senate Democrats are ready to roll and many Senate Republicans are ready to roll—and we have blocked our own request. We asked for the regular order. We did it in regular order, and then they said: Actually, no, let's not do that.

I want us to all feel a collective sense of urgency, not just because the end of the Federal fiscal year is coming shortly and there does not appear to be a viable plan from the House of Representatives, but because there is special urgency as it relates to disaster response.

I know the Presiding Officer is working so hard to get resources for his home State and the terrible floods that he experienced. Obviously, MAZIE HIRONO and I are working very hard with our colleagues to try to get the funding that we need for Maui. But this isn't just a Maui or Vermont problem. This is an across-the-country problem.

By the way, the way the Disaster Relief Fund works, you prefund it. You don't fund individual disaster responses. You just put money in this pile—the Disaster Relief Fund—and then, wherever there is a disaster, you have access to it.

I have never seen—I have only been here 11 years, but I have never seen us decide not to fund disaster relief.

Let's fight about everything, except whether or not our fellow Americans

get the help that they need from the Federal Government. This is one of the core responsibilities of the Federal legislature. This is one of the core things we have to do, not just as a matter of public policy but morally. What are we here for other than to help our fellow Americans when they are in desperate situations?

In Hawaii, in West Maui, you have hundreds of kids still not in school. You have an elementary school that was destroyed. You have sewer and water treatment facilities that have been not destroyed but deeply damaged. You have Lahaina Harbor that is not operable. You have telecom services that are not operating at full capacity. You have roads that are trashed. And that is to say nothing of the 1,800 homes burnt to the ground, 2,200 structures—2,200 structures—and, very likely, between 100 and 200 dead.

We have to stop messing around here.

I have been known to be partisan sometimes. I have been known to get into it with my colleagues on the Republican side. But part of the beauty of the American system of government, when it works, is that you can fight about all the stuff that you are supposed to fight about and not fight about the stuff that you are not supposed to fight about. We are not supposed to fight about whether people on Maui or people in Vermont, or people in Florida or people in Texas or Louisiana or California get the help that they need.

We have to get our act together and get this money out.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 307, Philip S. Hadji, to be a judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of 15 years, that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate, that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Philip S. Hadji, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hadji nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### 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)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 23-42, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Kuwait for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$150 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-42

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 Kuwait.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment \* 0 million.

Other 150 million.

Total 150 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: The Government of Kuwait has requested the replacement of expiring limited life components and certifications testing in order to support an operational life of thirty (30) years for Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) missiles. Included in this potential sale are: test and repair of PAC-3 missiles; stockpile reliability testing and field returns; repair and return of classified and unclassified PAC-3 missile items and ground support equipment (GSE) component level parts; replenishment of classified and unclassified missile spares, GSE spares, and seeker spares; tools to improve the turnaround time of the repair and recertification efforts; air transportation services for missile processing; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support; training devices; organizational equipment; support equipment; test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (KU-B-UYK).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: KU-B-UMI.

(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: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 20, 2023.

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

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kuwait—Repair and Recertification of Patriot Advanced Capability-3 Missiles

The Government of Kuwait has requested the replacement of expiring limited life components and certifications testing in order to support an operational life of thirty (30) years for Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) missiles. Included in this potential sale are: test and repair of PAC-3 missiles; stockpile reliability testing and field returns; repair and return of classified and unclassified PAC-3 missile items and ground support equipment (GSE) component level parts; replenishment of classified and unclassified missile spares, GSE spares, and seeker spares; tools to improve the turnaround time of the repair and recertification efforts; air transportation services for missile processing; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support; training devices; organizational equipment; support equipment; test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$150 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the infrastructure of a Major Non-NATO ally that has been an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

This proposed sale will improve Kuwait's capability to sustain their missile density and ensure readiness for air operations. Kuwait will use this capability as a deterrent to regional threats and to strengthen homeland defense. Kuwait will have no difficulty absorbing this infrastructure, support, and associated 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 the Lockheed Martin Corporation, Camden, Arkansas. 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 Kuwait.

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

#### 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)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-69 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$500 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,

JAMES A. HURSCH,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-69

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: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$0 million.

Other \$500 million.

Total \$500 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE:

A Foreign Military Sales Order (FMSO) II to provide funds for blanket order requisitions under a Cooperative Logistics Supply Support Agreement (CLSSA) for common spares/repair parts to support the Royal Saudi Land Force's (RSLF) fleet of Abrams tanks, M-60 tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, mortar carriers, Combat Engineer Vehicles (HMMWVs), Mine Resistance Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles, Light Armored Vehicles (LAVs), howitzers, additional support vehicles, components & acces-

sories, pistols, rifles, crew-served weapons, recoilless rifles, mortars, vehicle periscopes, night vision devices, TOW launchers and missile parts, computer units, radar sets, generators, testing/calibration equipment, communication and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (SR-B-KYZ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: SR-B-UBW, SR-B-KRK, SR-B-KSB, SR-B-KYL, SR-KYM, SR-B-KYN.

(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: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 21, 2023.

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

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Saudi Arabia—Cooperative Logistics Supply Support Arrangement (CLSSA) Program, Foreign Military Sales Order (FMSO) II

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has requested to buy a Foreign Military Sales Order (FMSO) II to provide funds for blanket order requisitions under a Cooperative Logistics Supply Support Agreement (CLSSA) for common spares repairs parts to support the Royal Saudi Land Force's (RSLF) fleet of Abrams tanks, M-60 tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, mortar carriers, Combat Engineer Vehicles, High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs), Mine Resistance Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles, Light Armored Vehicles (LAVs), howitzers, additional support vehicles, components & accessories, pistols, rifles, crew-served weapons, recoilless rifles, mortars, vehicle periscopes, night vision devices, TOW launchers and missile parts, computer units, radar sets, generators, testing/calibration equipment, communication equipment and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$500 million.

This proposed sale will support U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives by supporting a strategic partner's self-defense and promoting stability in the Middle East.

This proposed sale will maintain Saudi Arabia's capability to meet current and future threats by allowing the RSLF to continue to purchase needed spare/repair parts, through their current CLSSA program, to replenish in-country stocks required for general maintenance and sustain the operability of RSLF equipment. The RSLF has participated in the CLSSA program since 1965 and will have no difficulty absorbing these items into its armed forces.

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

There are no principal contractors involved with this potential sale. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the permanent assignment of any U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia.

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

#### NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize September as National Recovery Month, a time for us to honor our Nation's recovery community. This community includes