

and Lebanon, and Israel remains at immediate risk of other parties in Lebanon or Syria exploiting Hamas' appalling attack.

(U) The United States' commitment to Israel's security is ironclad, which is reflected in decades of close political-military dialogues and high-level defense policy exchanges. The historic ten-year U.S.-Israel Memorandum of Understanding to provide Israel with \$38 billion in security assistance is a bulwark against regional threats; however, Israel requires urgent support to respond to the immediate threat raised by Hamas' horrific attack, to replenish stocks of key defense articles that maintain its Qualitative Military Edge in the region, and to deter and guard against the threat of broad scale regional conflict.

(U) Given the scale and scope of Hamas' offensive, it is in the United States' national security interest to swiftly provide Israel with the defense systems it requires to defend itself and reinforce deterrence against other regional threats, which we have undertaken since October 7. Israel has communicated an urgent requirement for 120mm tank rounds. The urgency of this requirement has been validated by the Department of Defense in consultation with the Department of State. We anticipate Israel will continue its military operations in Gaza in the near-term. In order to effectively do so and ensure it is prepared for any other attacks, it has an immediate need for these defense articles. These 120mm rounds are readily available in DoD stock and can be quickly transferred to Israel. The immediacy of the challenge at hand requires overcoming the statutory 15-day Congressional Notification timeline to expedite transfers to Israel.

(U) For the reasons cited above, an emergency exists requiring immediate provision of these defense articles to Israel in the national security interest of the United States. This transfer, through a Foreign Military Sale, will provide Israel as soon as possible with defense articles that are necessary to allow it to defend itself in its war with Hamas. The Secretary of State, therefore, has certified an emergency exists under sections 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, 22 U.S.C. 2776, thereby waiving the congressional review requirement of that provision.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-15

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 Israel.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$99.9 million.

Other \$6.6 million.

Total \$106.5 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing and National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Thirteen thousand nine hundred eighty-one (13,981) 120mm M830A1 High Explosive Anti-Tank Multi-Purpose with Tracer (MPAT) Tank Cartridges.

Non-MDE: Also included are publications and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; studies and surveys; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (IS-B-VBS).

(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 the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 8, 2023.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Israel—M830A1 120mm Tank Cartridges

The Government of Israel has requested to buy thirteen thousand nine hundred eighty-one (13,981) 120mm M830A1 High Explosive Anti-Tank Multi-Purpose with Tracer (MPAT) tank cartridges. Also included are publications and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; studies and surveys; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$106.5 million.

The Secretary of State has determined and provided detailed justification that an emergency exists that requires the immediate sale to the Government of Israel of the above defense articles (and defense services) in the national security interests of the United States, thereby waiving the Congressional review requirements under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended.

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.

Israel will use the enhanced capability as a deterrent to regional threats and to strengthen its homeland defense. Israel will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

This will be a sale from U.S. Army inventory. 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 Israel.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-15

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 120mm M830A1 High Explosive Anti-Tank Multi-Purpose with Tracer (MPAT) tank cartridge is a line-of-sight, full-bore, multipurpose munition for the Abrams tank. It requires the gunner to manually select the fuze mode to either point detonate against buildings, bunkers, and light armor vehicles or similar target sets, or proximity for anti-helicopter self-defense capabilities.

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

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 Israel will 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 Israel.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO THE ALLEN FAMILY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the achievements of Jeremy and Magen Allen who have been recognized as the 2023 Arkansas Farm Family of the Year. This award reflects the dedication of the Allen family to farming and its contribution to the top industry in Arkansas.

As owners of JA Farms, Jeremy and Magen care for a 300-head of cow-calf herd and run their own hay operation. In addition to their farm, they oversee a diverse enterprise that includes JA Farms Feeds, a custom livestock feed business, and JA Farms Trucking, which facilitates transportation of their products. The Allen family's presence in Hot Springs County has proven vital to the community. Just one example of this was, when the sole Bismarck hardware store closed last year, the Allen family was quick to action, further expanding their enterprise to include JA Farms Feed & Mercantile, a retail storefront, in order to incorporate supplies and necessities utilized by farm families and others in the community. Since 1947, the Arkansas Farm Bureau's Arkansas Farm Family of the Year Program recognizes outstanding farm families throughout the State for their contributions to the industry and their communities.

I am proud of the Allen family's embodiment of this mission. Jeremy and Magen are driven and hard-working, and this recognition is the fruit bore of that effort. As Arkansas Farm Family of the Year, JA Farms will be competing with nine other State winners to vie for the Sunbelt Age Expo Farmer of the Year Program in Moultrie, GA, where I and their fellow Arkansans will be wishing them the best of luck.

Congratulations to Jeremy, Magen, and their children Lane, Brody, Evelyn, and Eli for their outstanding accomplishments in agriculture. I wish them continued success in the future of their operation.●

RECOGNIZING THE KINDRED HIGH SCHOOL VIKINGS

• Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I have the privilege of once again congratulating my alma mater on its' second high school State football championship in 3 years.

On November 10, the Kindred Vikings won the Division A State title at the Dakota Bowl State Football Tournament. They finished a truly impressive undefeated season by taking the championship over Dickinson Trinity by a score of 36-7. They had earlier won their first three postseason games, defeating teams from Harvey/Fessenden-

Bowman, Oakes, and Langdon/Edmore/Munich.

This was the third appearance and second State championship for the Vikings since State playoffs sponsored by the North Dakota High School Activities Association began in 1975. They made one Dakota Bowl appearance in 2016 and, in 2021, took the championship by defeating the Edmore-Munich Cardinals.

At Kindred High School, I lettered for 4 years in football, basketball, and track before graduating in 1979. Our teams were not as good as the Vikings are today, something I observed firsthand as the starting quarterback my junior and senior years. Remembering those years increases my admiration all the more for the superb quality of this team and its undefeated season.

Quarterback Jake Starcevic scored three touchdowns and rushed for 117 yards in the Vikings's decisive victory in the championship game. He and two other Vikings players, Riley Sunram and Brooks Bakko, were named to the All-State Class A Football Teams.

Congratulations to this year's team members: Camron Schwartzwalter, Gabe Whipple, Hayden Cichy, Izaak Spelhaug, Hunter Bindas, Jack McDonald, Miles Stroh, Brock Johnson, Landon Kottsick, Jakob Starcevic, Ethan Duval, Brooks Bakko, Carson Gette, Gabriel Iverson, Wyatt Briscoe, Myles Thielges, Graham Hesse, Owen Hoyme, Kylan Swenson, Sawyer Hesse, Grant Allison, Brayden Olson, Tyson Johnson, Fisher Johnson, Taylor Brandsted-Fletcher, Brady Baumgarten, Christopher Freier, Samuel Jenness, Jacob Lund, Kyle Campbell, Tanon Johnson, Tate Miller, Gavin Niemeyer, Teige Erdmann, Brody Mauch, Cole Richard, Kelby Erdmann, Ethan Fornshell, Andrew Haley, Dillon Filler, Lukas Starcevic, Trevor Olson, Riley Sunram, Grant Spelhaug, Javen Johnson, and Lincoln Swenson.

I also want to also recognize Eric Burgad in his first year as head coach, along with his assistants Brad Ambrosius, Joe Harder, Nate Safe, and Ryan Sunram, as well as all the hometown fans for their part in winning this championship.

As a proud alumnus of Kindred High School, I join the rest of North Dakota in congratulating the Vikings on a perfect season and another State championship and for inspiring all of us to strive for excellence, regardless of the circumstance. Once again, they have shown the rest of us what can be achieved when faith and passion combine with determination and teamwork.●

RECOGNIZING THE FALL INTERNS

●Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, today I stand before you to express my gratitude and admiration for the exceptional students who joined our team as fall interns in 2023. These talented young women and men brought a

unique blend of enthusiasm, dedication, and a passion for making a difference to my offices in Washington, DC, office and across the State of Nebraska.

Our interns have consistently shown a motivation to learn and a strong commitment to our State. Their presence has not only enriched our workspace, but also inspired my team and me. As the torchbearers of the next generation, their spirit and determination fill us with anticipation for what the future holds.

As they leave our office, I want to take a moment to extend my sincerest thanks to: Sarah Gregory, Johnathan Smith, Stephen Trainer, and Kayla Fink, who served in my Washington, DC, office; Abbie Russman, and Ava Verzani, who served in my Omaha office; and Reagan Connelly, who served in my Lincoln office.

Your dedication and contributions have truly made our team stronger. I hope you will carry the lessons learned here into your bright futures. Congratulations and best of luck.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:59 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 2747. An act to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to extend the Administrative Fine Program for certain reporting violations.

S. 2787. An act to authorize the Federal Communications Commission to process applications for spectrum licenses from applicants who were successful bidders in an auction before the authority of the Commission to conduct auctions expired on March 9, 2023.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1042. An act to prohibit the importation into the United States of unirradiated low-enriched uranium that is produced in the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2839. An act to amend the Siletz Reservation Act to address the hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal gathering rights of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3224. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to extend the authorization of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3226. An act to reauthorize the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act.

H.R. 3315. An act to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days.

H.R. 5473. An act to amend certain laws relating to disaster recovery and relief with respect to the implementation of building codes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6503. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the

airport improvement program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3224. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to extend the authorization of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5473. An act to amend certain laws relating to disaster recovery and relief with respect to the implementation of building codes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3226. An act to reauthorize the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3056. A communication from the Manager of Delisting and Foreign Species, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removing Island Bedstraw and Santa Cruz Island Dudleya From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants" (RIN1018-BF51) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3057. A communication from the Manager of Delisting and Foreign Species, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reclassifying Mitracarpus Polycladus From Endangered to Threatened With a Section 4(d) Rule" (RIN1018-BE53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3058. A communication from the Manager of Delisting and Foreign Species, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removing Nelson's Checker-Mallow From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants" (RIN1018-BE54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3059. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "FY 2022 Superfund Five-Year Review Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3060. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection