

aircraft ancillary equipment; modifications; spare and repair parts; support equipment; publications and technical documentation; software; personal protective equipment; personnel training and training equipment; ferry services; U.S. Government and contractor logistics, engineering, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total program cost is \$1.381 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Asia-Pacific region.

The proposed sale will improve Japan's ability to effectively provide homeland defense utilizing an AEW&C capability. Japan will use the E-2D AHE aircraft to provide AEW&C situational awareness of air and naval activity in the Pacific region and to augment its existing E-2C Hawkeye AEW&C fleet. Japan 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.

The principal contractor will be Northrop Grumman Corporation Aerospace Systems, Melbourne, FL. 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 Japan. However, U.S. Government or contractor personnel in-country visits will be required, on a temporary basis, in conjunction with program technical and management oversight and support requirements.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-14

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 E-2D Advanced Hawkeye (AHE) Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) provides detection and surveillance of regional surface and aircraft platforms through the use of the APY-9 radar, APX-122A Identification Friend or Foe (IFF), and ALQ-217 Electronic Support Measures (ESM) systems. The E-2D AHE provides area surveillance and detection, air intercept control, air traffic control, search and rescue assistance, communication relay and automatic tactical data exchange.

2. The APY-9 radar is a mechanically rotated, electronically scanned array, which utilizes Space-Time Adaptive Processing (STAP) technology to provide 360-degree detection and surveillance in high clutter environments. It is able to provide simultaneous detection and surveillance of surface and air units.

3. The Multifunction Information Distribution System Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS JTRS (5)) terminal provides enhanced Link 16 functionality, namely Concurrent Multi-netting with four channels (CMN-4) and Concurrent Contention Receive (CCR). CMN-4 is a Link 16 enhancement that increases the terminal capability from receiving only one Tactical Digital Information Link-J (TADIL-J) message packing structure per time slot to receive as many as four simultaneous message packing structures per time slot, each transmitted on a unique Link 16 net. CCR described the Link 16 terminal's ability to receive multiple messages in the same net within the same time slot.

4. The APX-122A IFF Interrogator and APX-123A IFF Transponder are identification systems designed for command and control. They provide the ability to distinguish friendly aircraft, vehicles, or forces, and to determine their bearing and range from the Interrogator.

5. The ALQ-217 Electronic Support Measure (ESM) system is used to detect, intercept, identify, locate, record, and/or analyze sources of radiated electromagnetic energy to support classification of unknown surface and airborne units.

6. The AN/AYK-27 Integrated Navigation Control and Display System serves as the network manager and the human machine interface for the E-2D navigation system.

7. The LN-251 Embedded Global Positioning Systems/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGIs) with embedded airborne Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) or M-Code Receiver (ASR) system provides position, navigation and timing information to the E-2D via the Global Positioning Satellite system and an inertial measuring unit.

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

9. 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.

10. A Special Security Agreement (SSA) will be in place to provide additional security requirements for implementation by the Government of Japan to protect the advanced capabilities this aircraft provides. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

11. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Japan.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING BIG RIVER PACKAGING

• Ms. ERNST. Madam President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Big River Packaging of Clinton, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week for the week of March 13, 2023.

In 2001, Bob Simpson found himself reflecting on the 350 jobs that were lost due to the recent closure of the large paper plant in Clinton. He saw the value of the experienced professionals in the area and wanted to see their talent stay in his community. He and John Huling cofounded Big River Packaging in 2005 with the big idea of utilizing the dedicated local talent to create high-quality boxes. After hiring Bob's son Kip Simpson as the first employee, they began to make their dream a reality. Through trial and error, they slowly grew their business until they eventually found a niche

that truly "takes the cake": bakery boxes. Once they discovered the need for bakery boxes, they became dedicated to providing the best customer service to a unique clientele whose needs are often overlooked by large corporations.

In the folding carton industry, small carton orders for specialty items are an underserved market. Many in the industry choose to focus on big-volume orders, but Big River Packaging, on the other hand, has a short-order/value-added market strategy. Big River Packaging aims to help local bakeries by providing them with customized boxes, in volumes that the "big guy" often ignores. To continue to serve these specialized accounts with excellence, the company has decided to forgo a physical storefront and instead run all their sales solely through their website. The company strives to provide quality customer service and do everything they can to foster long-term relationships with their clients. This dedication has been evident since the beginning or, in other words, since the fateful day John Huling stopped at his local bakery to pick up a dozen donuts.

Years prior, cofounder John Huling went to a local bakery to pick up donuts. While he was there, he discovered that the bakery needed a special box to keep their cupcakes steady. At the time, the baker was using sheetcake boxes to transport cupcakes, leaving the individual desserts totally unsecured inside the box and, as a result, ruining the meticulously painted frosting on the cupcakes. Big River Packaging came to the rescue and developed an insert grid with holes for the cupcakes to keep them steady and upright. Keeping that same knack for product innovation in mind, Big River Packaging continues to cater to the unique needs of any bakery. Currently, Big River Packaging offers a plethora of boxes and bags to fulfill every baker's packaging needs, including cocoa bomb packaging, cupcake boxes, and paper bread bags. Over the years, their reach has grown to over 120,000 customers, and they have even expanded to international markets. In addition to their unique approach to the packaging industry, it is the team's commitment to high-quality products and top-notch customer service that has led to the growth and success of Big River Packaging.

When you chase a dream, you might be surprised where it takes you. Big River Packaging's commitment to the value of hard work has even allowed some of their boxes to end up on the silver screen. A 2019 episode of the hit television series *Grey's Anatomy* features one of Big River Packaging's boxes. Big River Packaging has also been recognized by the Iowa Small Business Administration in 2017 in celebration of National Manufacturing Day and National Manufacturing Week, and Bob Simpson was named the 2018 National Small Business Person of

the Year. Clearly, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Huling proved to be a dynamic pair as the two have led Big River Packaging through impressive growth and innovation, all while receiving accolades from industry experts and beyond. I want to congratulate Mr. Simpson and Mr. Huling along with the entire team at Big River Packaging. I look forward to seeing your continued growth and success in Iowa.●

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT SLADE

● Mr. OSSOFF. Madam President, I rise to honor a titan in Atlanta's media industry, someone whose name—and voice—are a staple of everyone's morning routine.

Scott Slade began his storied career at WSB Radio in 1984 on an overnight music show. In 1991, he took over as host of "Atlanta's Morning News," becoming the longest running host in the Atlanta market. Last month, Slade announced he would step aside from daily hosting duties of "Atlanta Morning News."

Slade's service to the community extends beyond his duties on air as a trusted voice for news. In 2000, Slade started the WSB Radio "Care-a-Thon" for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta's Cancer Center, helping raise millions of dollars to fight childhood cancer and blood disorders. Slade's voice and journalism has informed Georgians for decades, and we are all grateful to him.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend Scott Slade on his historic career and on his induction into the Georgia Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame on March 15, 2023.●

TRIBUTE TO TINA TYUS-SHAW

● Mr. OSSOFF. Madam President, I rise to commend and recognize Tina Tyus-Shaw on her induction into the Georgia Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Born in Griffin, GA, Tyus-Shaw knew she wanted to be a journalist from an early age. After graduating from college, she worked at TV and radio stations in Macon and Columbus before joining WSAV in Savannah in 1992, where she has worked ever since. Thirty years later, Tyus-Shaw has since become a titan of the industry and an integral part of the Savannah community, anchoring the evening news and keeping coastal Georgia families informed. In addition to her journalism, Tyus-Shaw has been an integral part of WSAV's Buddy Check 3 Breast Cancer Awareness Program in partnership with St. Joseph's/Candler Hospital, spreading awareness of the need for breast cancer screenings for women.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend Tina Tyus-Shaw on her induction into the Georgia Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame on March 15, 2023, and congratulate her on her remarkable journalism career.●

RECOGNIZING THE BELEN JESUIT WOLVERINES

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, I recognize the Belen Jesuit Wolverines varsity basketball team, winners of the FHSAA Class 5A State Championship Title in Boys Basketball held in Lakeland, FL, on March 4, 2023.

The Belen Jesuit Wolverines basketball team, led by Coach Gaston "Chachi" Rodriguez, finished their regular season with a 28-4 record. They claimed the school's first State championship in the sport. Considered underdogs with an undersized roster, Belen defeated Daytona Beach Mainland High School in the championship game with a final score of 49-30. Senior Javi Rosell's 22 points led the team, followed by sophomore Bryce Fitzgerald with 13 points, including 11 of 12 freethrows made. The championship game was tied after the first quarter, but Belen broke open with 13 steals and forced 23 turnovers from Mainland's team during the rest of the game. The Wolverines' 30 points allowed in the championship game were the fewest scored by an opponent over the past decade.

I extend my best wishes to the entire Belen Jesuit family, Principal Roca, Coach Gaston Rodriguez, players Kevin Garcia, Joshue Perez, Ryan Cuellar, Javi Rosell, Bryce Fitzgerald, Alec Arnholt, Ej Gross, Carlos Santana, Alejandro Lopez, Max Klemick, Vincent Lima, Al Madrigal, Dillon Diaz, Nicolas Portuondo, and Ignacio Falla. I look forward to hearing of their continued success in the years to come.●

RECOGNIZING THE MATER LAKES ACADEMY BASKETBALL TEAM

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, I recognize the Mater Lakes Academy Bears varsity boys' basketball team, winners of the Class 4A State Final at the 2023 Boys Basketball State Tournament held in Lakeland, FL, on March 4, 2023.

The Mater Lakes Academy Bears basketball team, led by Coach Dylan Estock, finished their regular season with a 28-3 record. The team won Mater Lakes its first basketball State championship since the school opened in 2006. Ten players scored in the championship game, led by their primary trio of senior Michael Bradley, who scored 21 points; junior Christian Reid, with 20 points and seven rebounds; and sophomore Anthony Knowles, with 13 points, six rebounds, and six assists. Mater Lakes took command of the game in the second quarter, growing their lead to 23 points before defeating the Villages Charter by a final score of 77-41. Their stifling defense forced their opponent, who came into the championship game averaging 64.5 points a game, to score only 41 points.

I extend my best wishes to the entire Mater Lakes Academy family, Principal Rovirosa, Coach Dylan Estock, Assistant Coach Peterson Morency, players Michael Bradley, Khalil Volel,

Gabriel Farjardo, Ian Pascall, Emerson Felicien, Rolph Blanc, Anthony Knowles, Nicholas Perez, Jet Walis, Christian Reid, Clarence Burts, and Desmond McIntosh. I look forward to hearing of their continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO GEORGIANNA LINCOLN

● Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I rise to join the other members of Alaska's Federal delegation—Senator LISA MURKOWSKI and Representative MARY PELTOLA—in honoring our very dear friend Georgianna Lincoln, who will be retiring from the board of the regional Alaska Native Corporation, Doyon, Limited, after 47 years of service.

For decades, Georgianna has been a force for good in our State. A force of nature, with an indomitable spirit, Georgianna, a Koyukon Athabascan Indian, was born in the village of Rampart, AK, in 1945. She moved to Fairbanks when she was in fourth grade. Like the experience of many Alaska Natives, moving from a small village to a relatively big city was tough. Fairbanks, she said, was "foreign to me." But her mother, Kathryn Evans Harwood, told her repeatedly that she was as good as anyone else—an equal. And that message stayed with her throughout her long career in public service and politics.

"This path is cut clear for me and I am following it, willingly," Georgianna later recalled. "Knowing that, I can take boulders and move them aside because in front of that boulder is green pastures; maybe more trouble, but nothing is insurmountable."

Indeed, from executive board rooms, to the halls of the State legislature, to communities throughout Alaska that she has worked tirelessly to improve, nothing has been insurmountable for Georgianna. As a young woman in Fairbanks, Georgianna got involved with the Fairbanks Native Association, eventually becoming the executive director of the organization. This was in the 1960s, when the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act—the largest lands claims act in U.S. history—was in full debate. She, along with thousands of Alaska Natives from across the State, advocated tirelessly for the bill, which eventually passed. It redefined Federal Indian policy in Alaska and fundamentally transformed the lives of Alaska Natives.

That was just the beginning for Georgianna. She went on to develop health and education programs in her region, helping to improve the lives of so many. And then she decided to run for the Alaska legislature. She won a seat in the house in 1991, then ran for the senate, where she stayed until 2005. In the legislature, she was a fierce champion of issues impacting women and children, as well as natural resource management. Still today, she is the only Alaska Native woman ever elected to the Alaska State Senate.