

## 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. CARDIN. 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 that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an 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. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,  
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. 24-32, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Canada for defense services estimated to cost \$138 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. 24-32

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 Canada.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$0.

Other \$138 million.

Total \$138 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

None.

Non-MDE: Telecommunications services providing Tactical Narrowband Satellite Communications (SATCOM) access to Canadian Armed Forces users over the Mobile User Objective System (MUOS) service; com-

munication technical assistance to provide operational support, lifecycle management support, and engineering technical assistance and services; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (CN-D-DAV).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: CN-P-FEU, CN-P-FFN.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: March 7, 2024.

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

## POLICY JUSTIFICATION

## Canada—Mobile User Objective System Access

The Government of Canada has requested to buy telecommunications services providing Tactical Narrowband Satellite Communications (SATCOM) access to Canadian armed forces users over the Mobile User Objective System (MUOS) service; communication technical assistance to provide operational support, lifecycle management support, and engineering technical assistance and services; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$138 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the military capability of Canada, a NATO Ally that is an important force for ensuring political stability and economic progress and a contributor to military, peacekeeping, and humanitarian operations around the world.

The proposed sale will improve Canada's ability to meet current and future threats by providing ultra-high frequency SATCOM access. MUOS access will increase Canada's capacity to conduct operations in concert with U.S. forces for the defense of North America. Enhanced functionality in northern latitudes is integral to meeting Canada's North American Aerospace Defense Command missions and makes MUOS particularly beneficial to continental air defense collaboration. Canada will have no difficulty absorbing these 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 General Dynamics, Reston, VA. 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 Canada.

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

## ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CARDIN. 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 still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an 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. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,  
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. 24-25, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Republic of Korea for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$170.6 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. 24-25

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: Republic of Korea.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$6.9 million.

Other \$163.7 million.

Total \$170.6 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Five (5) BQM-177A Subsonic Sea-Skimming Aerial Targets (SSAT) for KDX-III Batch-II AEGIS Class Destroyers.

Non-MDE: Also included are GQM-163 target drones; classified books and other publications (technical and non-technical); test support; technical documentation; personnel training; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (KS-P-GTP).

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

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

(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: March 7, 2024.

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

## POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Republic of Korea—Subsonic Sea-Skimming Aerial Targets for KDX-III Batch-II AEGIS Class Destroyers

The Republic of Korea has requested to buy five (5) BQM-177A Subsonic Sea-Skimming Aerial Targets (SSAT) for KDX-III

Batch-II AEGIS Class Destroyers. Also included are GQM-163 target drones; classified books and other publications (technical and non-technical); test support; technical documentation; personnel 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 is \$170.6 million.

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 Indo-Pacific region.

The proposed sale will improve the Republic of Korea's capability to meet current and future threats by performing Combat System Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT) for its new KDX-III Batch-II AEGIS Class Destroyers. The KDX-III Batch-II CSSQT efforts will demonstrate the ship's ability to safely and effectively launch and control weapons, demonstrate proper integrated hardware operation, demonstrate system performance, based on key requirements, and provide realistic training for the shipboard anti-air warfare firing teams. The Republic of Korea 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 for the BQM-177A SSAT will be Kratos Defense, Sacramento, CA, and Fort Walton Beach, FL. The principal contractor for the GQM-163A target drones will be Northrop Grumman, Chandler, AZ. 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 the Republic of Korea.

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

#### TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-25

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 BQM-177A Subsonic Sea-Skimming Aerial Target (SSAT) is a subsonic target with capabilities to provide realistic threat representation. This aerial target replicates modern subsonic Anti-Ship Cruise Missile threats in support of fleet training and developmental, and operational testing of major Department of Defense and international weapon systems. The BQM-177A aerial targets support live-fire Test and Evaluation events for AEGIS, SM-6, SM-2, Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM), Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile (ESSM), and fleet training events. The BQM-177A assets for this potential sale will not be physically delivered to the Republic of Korea. They will remain in U.S. Navy (USN) custody and reserved as an allocation to the Republic of Korea until they are required at the USN Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) to support the KDX-III Batch-II AEGIS Class Destroyers' (DDG 995, DDG 996, and DDG 997) Combat System Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT).

2. The GQM-163A Coyote is a non-recoverable supersonic sea-skimming aerial target capable of speeds in excess of Mach 2.7, cruising altitudes from 13 to 66 feet, high diving speeds at Mach 3.9, and cruising altitudes up to 52,000 feet. This aerial target replicates a family of supersonic sea-skimming anti-ship cruise missile threats to meet critical Test and Evaluation requirements of Ship Self-

Defense Systems (SSDS) and fleet training. The GQM-163A aerial target supports live-fire Test and Evaluation events for AEGIS, SM-6, SM-2, RAM, ESSM, and fleet training events. The GQM-163A assets for this potential sale will not be physically delivered to the Republic of Korea. They will remain in USN custody and reserved as an allocation to the Republic of Korea until they are required at the USN PMRF to support the KDX-III Batch-II AEGIS Class Destroyers' (DDG 995, DDG 996 and DDG 997) CSSQT.

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

4. 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.

5. A determination has been made that the Republic of Korea can 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.

6. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Republic of Korea.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING TRACY GENERAL STORE

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am pleased to honor the Tracy General Store as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for March 2024.

For over a century, the Tracy General Store, the longest continuously operating store in Idaho, has called Almo home. Established in 1894 by William and Henry Eames, the general store offered food staples, dry goods, shoes, household and farm equipment, and a Post Office. The upstairs served as an amusement hall for the thriving Southern Idaho community where plays, dances, and weddings were performed. The building's unique brickwork, often of interest to tourists visiting the nearby City of Rocks National Reserve, demonstrates the building styles of two different cultures. The lower level was built in the English method of bricklaying. The upper floor with its decorative design was the handiwork of two Swiss bricklayers who helped the brothers in the construction of the store's upper addition. In 1940, William Eames sold the store to his daughter Otella and her husband Josep Tracy, changing the name of the store from Eames to Tracy. The lively general store remained in the Tracy family until about 2007.

Currently owned by Kent and Janis Durfee, the Tracy General Store boasts

a wide selection of grocery items, as well as fresh and homemade food and ice cream. Scattered across the shelves, shoppers can find relics from the past; most notable is the original cash register which was in use until 2003. Today, the beloved Tracy General Store still houses the Post Office, plenty of goods for locals and travelers, and a community space where everyone can come together to appreciate the building's long history.

Congratulations to the Durfees and the employees of the Tracy General Store on their selection as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for March 2024. Thank you for serving Idaho as small business owners and entrepreneurs. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12957 OF MARCH 15, 1995, WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—PM 43

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2024.

The actions and policies of the Government of Iran continue to pose an