

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 handwork 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

unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 with respect to Iran and to maintain in force comprehensive sanctions against Iran to respond to this threat.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 12, 2024.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:39 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1858. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to establish a deadline for applying for disaster unemployment assistance.

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

H.R. 532. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 600 East First Street in Rome, Georgia, as the "Harold L. Murphy Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

H.R. 886. An act to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1752. An act to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide for a high-speed broadband deployment initiative.

H.R. 4693. An act to provide that the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 does not apply to certain reports required to be submitted by the Tennessee Valley Authority, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6249. An act to provide for a review and report on the assistance and resources that the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency provides to individuals with disabilities and the families of such individuals that are impacted by major disasters, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6254. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review on the Public Buildings Service, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6277. An act to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to improve such Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6316. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to establish an expiration date of certain committee resolutions with respect to leases or projects, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 83. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 532. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 600 East First Street in Rome, Georgia, as the "Harold L. Murphy Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 1752. An act to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide for a high-speed broadband deployment initiative; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 4693. An act to provide that the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 does not apply to certain reports required to be submitted by the Tennessee Valley Authority, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 6249. An act to provide for a review and report on the assistance and resources that the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency provides to individuals with disabilities and the families of such individuals that are impacted by major disasters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 6254. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review on the Public Buildings Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 6277. An act to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to improve such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 6316. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to establish an expiration date of certain committee resolutions with respect to leases or projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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. 886. An act to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SCHATZ, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1322. A bill to amend the Act of August 9, 1955, to modify the authorized purposes and term period of tribal leases, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-159).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment:

S. 3791. A bill to reauthorize the America's Conservation Enhancement Act, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with amendments:

S. 3858. A bill to establish within the Office of Land and Emergency Management of the Environmental Protection Agency the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3891. A bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to update and expand Federal economic development investment in the economic recovery, resiliency, and competitiveness of communities, regions, and States across the United States, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. WARREN:

S. 3906. A bill to set aside USDA rural housing funding for Indian Tribes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 3907. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to carry out a grant program to assist local educational agencies with ensuring that each elementary school and secondary school has at least one reading, literacy, or biliteracy specialist on staff; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 3908. A bill to restrict United States voluntary and assessed contributions to the United Nations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. THUNE, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 3909. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to auction spectrum in the band between 1.3 gigahertz and 13.2 gigahertz, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 3910. A bill to provide technical assistance and grants for faith-based organizations, institutions of higher education, and local governments to increase the supply of affordable rental housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3911. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the methods by which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs conducts oversight of certain educational institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 3912. A bill to protect election workers and polling places; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 3913. A bill to authorize the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury to use a portion of the amounts seized through the enforcement of sanctions to recover the costs of such enforcement; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 3914. A bill to increase the supply of, and lower rents for, affordable housing and to assess calculations of area median income for purposes of Federal low-income housing assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. VANCE (for himself and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 3915. A bill to prohibit sanctuary jurisdictions from receiving community development block grants; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. PADILLA,