

the hard-liners in his cabinet, who pledge to reoccupy Gaza and reject any notion of a Palestinian state—exactly the opposite of U.S. policy.

Thanks in part to the bombs and other heavy weapons supplied by the United States, the Israel military now faces little armed resistance in most of Gaza. But Mr. Netanyahu has ignored his obligations to provide food and medicine to the civilian population in the territory that Israel now controls. In fact, Israel has made it difficult for anyone else to provide humanitarian aid to Gaza. The United States has had to take extraordinary steps, including airdrops and building a pier, to overcome Israeli obstacles to providing humanitarian aid. Last week's attack on a World Central Kitchen convoy in Gaza, which killed seven aid workers and which Israel acknowledged was a mistake, underscores the enormous danger facing the international aid agencies that are stepping in to help.

This cannot continue.

Israel recently announce a pullback of troops from southern Gaza. But this is neither a formal cease-fire nor end to the war, and it is incumbent on the Biden administration to persevere in its efforts to help end the fighting, free the hostages and protect Palestinian civilians.

A growing number of senators, led by Chris Van Hollen, Democrat of Maryland, have been urging Mr. Biden to consider pausing military transfers to Israel, which the executive branch can do without congressional approval. They were right to push for this action.

Last week, Representative Nancy Pelosi was among 40 House Democrats to sign a letter to the president and the secretary of state urging them to ensure that military assistance to Israel is in compliance with U.S. and international law. The mechanism to do that is already in place. In February, Mr. Biden signed a national security memorandum (NSM-20) that directed the secretary of state to obtain "credible and reliable" written assurances from recipients of American weapons that those weapons would be used in accordance with international law and that recipients would not impede the delivery of American assistance. Failure to fulfill those measures could lead to suspension of further arms transfers.

NSM-20 did not break ground. Many of its requirements are already law under the Foreign Assistance Act and other measures, and they apply to armaments supplied to other countries, including Ukraine. NSM-20 specifically excludes air defense systems and others used for strictly defensive purposes, but that still leaves many offensive weapons whose delivery the United States could pause. But NSM-20 is notable. It affirms the president's authority to use military aid as a lever in ensuring the nation's weapons are used responsibly.

The administration has tried many forms of pressure and admonition, including public statements, reported expressions of frustration and U.N. Security Council resolutions. None of them, so far, have proved effective with Mr. Netanyahu. Military aid is the one lever Mr. Biden has been reluctant to use, but it is a significant one he has at his disposal—perhaps the last one—to persuade Israel to open the way for urgent assistance to Gaza.

Pausing the flow of weapons to Israel would not be an easy step for Mr. Biden to take; his devotion and commitment to the Jewish state go back decades. But the war in Gaza has taken an enormous toll in human lives, with a cease-fire still out of reach and many hostages still held captive. The eroding international support for its military campaign has made Israel more insecure.

Confronted with that suffering, the United States cannot remain beholden to an Israeli leader fixated on his own survival and the approval of the zealots he harbors.

The United States has had Israel's back, diplomatically and militarily, through decades of wars and crises. Alliances are not one-way relationships, and most Israelis, including Israel's senior military commanders, are aware of that. Yet Mr. Netanyahu has turned his back on America and its entreaties, creating a crisis in U.S.-Israeli relations when Israel's security, and the stability of the entire region, is at stake.

Mr. SANDERS. This is what the New York Times says:

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Biden administration—

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New York Times, last Sunday.

Mr. President, the United States has offered Israel unconditional financial support for a very, very long time. In recent years, that has amounted to \$3.8 billion a year, with numerous additional forms of support. Right now, against my vote, Congress is considering another \$14 billion in military aid for Israel, \$10 billion of which is completely unrestricted military funding.

That unconditional support for the Israeli military must end. Instead of begging Netanyahu's extremist government to protect innocent lives and obey U.S. and international law, our new position must be simple and straightforward: Not another nickel for the Netanyahu government if their present policies continue.

The United States must use all of its leverage to secure an immediate cease-fire in Gaza and across the region and demand that the massive amount of humanitarian assistance that is needed to prevent famine and widespread humanitarian suffering is able to flow into Gaza.

Mr. President, history will judge what we do right now. History will judge whether we stand with starving children, whether we uphold America's professed values, or whether we continue to blindly finance the Netanyahu war machine.

I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

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. 24-04, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Iraq for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$140 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. 24-04

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 Iraq.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0.
Other \$140 million.
Total \$140 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The Government of Iraq has requested to buy Contractor Logistics Support (CLS) and training in support of its C-172 and AC/RC-208 aircraft fleet.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Included is advising, technical, and proficiency training for Iraqi maintainers and aircrews; CLS; spare and repair parts, components, accessories, and repair and return support; minor modifications and upgrades; subscription services; overhaul and depot level maintenance and maintenance support; 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 (IQ-D-QCK, IQ-D-TLV).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: IQ-D-QCH.

(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: April 15, 2024.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Iraq—C-172 arid AC/RC-208 Aircraft Contractor Logistics Support and Training

The Government of Iraq has requested to buy Contractor Logistics Support (CLS) and training in support of its C-172 and AC/RC-208 aircraft fleet. Included is advising, technical, and proficiency training for Iraqi maintainers and aircrews; CLS; spare and repair parts, components, accessories, and repair and return support; minor modifications and upgrades; subscription services; overhaul and depot level maintenance and maintenance support; 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 \$140 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner.

The proposed sale will improve Iraq's capability to meet current and future threats by helping to sustain its C-172 and AC/RC-208 aircraft and contribute to Iraq's self-sufficiency in maintaining its fleet. Iraq will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and 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 Northrop Grumman Corporation, of Falls Church, 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 Iraq.

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

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I was absent on Monday, April 15, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 126. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 478 Ramona Villagomez Manglona, of the Northern Mariana Islands, to be a U.S. District Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands for a term of ten years, rollcall vote No. 126, PN1252.

RECOGNIZING THE 116TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the founding of the U.S. Army Reserve. On April 23, the Army Reserve will celebrate 116 years of service by our citizen soldiers who stand ready to answer the call to serve, bringing critical skills and capabilities to the Nation, while defending America's freedoms and liberties.

Across the United States of America, brave and dedicated men and women

with great passion for service answer the call, no matter the personal sacrifice, to come together and make up the U.S. Army Reserve. Over the course of its long and storied history, our Reserve force has utilized a diverse set of professional skills, educational backgrounds, and experiences to honor and serve our great country.

Since the activation of the modern-day Army Reserve's predecessor the Medical Reserve, the United States has mobilized more than 1.3 million soldiers, trained, equipped and prepared to perform their duties at home and abroad. On any given day, upwards of 9,000 Army Reserve soldiers are mobilized or deployed to 23 countries worldwide in support of combatant commands, while tens of thousands of others in the Reserve train for deployments or participate in joint exercises to strengthen national alliances and partnerships across the globe.

The resilience of the Army Reserve is critical to our national security in responding to constantly changing and evolving challenges our country and allies face each day. To reinforce the Army and the joint force today and into the future, the Army Reserve supports all aspects of a soldier's life—family, employment, and education goals—integrating a rewarding uniformed experience and getting our citizen soldiers back to the fundamentals in defense of our Nation's interests.

In the great State of Arkansas, 2,184 soldiers and 38 units contribute an economic impact of \$130 million to our State's economy.

As our reservists prepare for their next 116 years of service, they can take pride knowing they are a part of one of the most experienced forces in our Nation's history. I am grateful for the sacrifices each and every one of them make every day. As we look to the future, I am proud to be able to support our Army Reserve in achieving its mission of "Ready Now" and "Shaping Tomorrow!"

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING DUNLAP HATCHERY

• 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 Dunlap Hatchery as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for April 2024.

The Dunlap Hatchery, which was established in 1918 by Oscar Dunlap, is one of the longest standing hatcheries, not just in Idaho but in the Nation. The Dunlaps moved the hatchery from Junction City, OR, to Caldwell, ID, early on in order to expand hatchery operations. Originally a chick hatchery and pullets operation, after more than

100 years in business, Dunlap Hatchery now hatches more than 50 varieties of chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, and game birds.

With 106 years of expertise in the poultry business under four generations of Dunlaps, the hatchery remains committed to providing quality products and exceptional service to their customers throughout the U.S. During peak season, their efforts guide the hatching of over 1 million chicks annually while operating a retail store to ensure customers have the supplies necessary to successfully raise chickens.

Congratulations to the Dunlaps and the employees of the Dunlap Hatchery on their selection as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for April 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.●

130TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOKAN GOODWILL

• Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas, also known as MoKan Goodwill, for their 130th anniversary of being a pillar of support for the Kansas City community.

Goodwill Industries' mission has remained the same since its founding: provide services and resources for those in need wherever they may be. For the Kansas City region, the Helping Hand Institute carried out this mission starting in 1894. They provided food, shelter, and work relief programs for those who were homeless and without resources. Through the Helping Hand Institute, thousands of Kansas City citizens were able to obtain employment and become self-sufficient.

By 1925, Goodwill Industries of Greater Kansas City had grown to incorporate workforce programs focused on collected used goods and then trained and hired people with disabilities or disadvantages to repair those goods. These repaired items were then sold in stores to support the program. In the 1940s, Goodwill had expanded its focus to become a training center and added services such as employment skills training and vocational rehabilitation for persons with disabilities. In 1956, Goodwill started workforce development programs supported by contracts with the State Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, providing paid employment for persons with disabilities who repaired donated furniture and clothing sold in Goodwill stores.

In 1978, it became apparent that a name better reflecting the geographical scope of Helping Hands Institute and Goodwill Industries' programs and services was needed. In 2010, the organization changed to its present name, Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas.

Today, I am proud to say that MoKan Goodwill continues to be a nonprofit