

this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-06

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 Poland.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0.
Other \$1.2 billion.
Total \$1.2 billion.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing Direct Loan and National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Airspace and Surface Radar Reconnaissance (ASRR) aerostat systems; Airborne Early Warning (AEW) Radars with Identification of Friend or Foe (IFF) capability; electronic intelligence (ELINT) sensors systems; mooring systems with powered tether with embedded fiber optics; Ground Control Systems (GCS); associated installation hardware; special tools and test equipment; Basic Issue Items (BII); program management support; verification testing; systems technical support; transportation; spare and repair parts; communications equipment; operators and maintenance manuals; personnel training and training equipment; tool and test equipment; repair and return; publications and technical documentation; Quality Assurance Team (QAT); U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; in-country Field Service Representatives (FSR); and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (PL-B-UET).

(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: February 7, 2024.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Poland—Aerostat Systems

The Government of Poland has requested to buy Airspace and Surface Radar Reconnaissance (ASRR) aerostat systems; Airborne Early Warning (AEW) Radars with Identification of Friend or Foe (IFF) capability; electronic intelligence (ELINT) sensors systems; mooring systems with powered tether with embedded fiber optics; Ground Control Systems (GCS); associated installation hardware; special tools and test equipment; Basic Issue Items (BII); program management support; verification testing; systems technical support; transportation; spare and repair parts; communications equipment; operators and maintenance manuals; personnel training and training equipment; tool and test equipment; repair and return; publications and technical documentation; Quality Assurance Team (QAT); U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; in-country Field Service Representatives (FSR); and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total program cost is \$1.2 billion.

The proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives

of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Poland's capability to meet current and future threats of enemy air and ground weapons systems. Poland will use the capability as an airborne early warning system to defend against incoming regional threats. This will also enable Poland to increase its contribution to future NATO operations. Poland 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 contractors will be Raytheon Intelligence and Space, of El Segundo, CA; TCOM, L.P., of Columbia, MD; ELTA North America, of Annapolis Junction, MD; and Avantus Federal LLC (a wholly owned subsidiary of QinetiQ, Inc.), of McLean, VA. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require forty (40) aerostat contractor representatives to travel to Poland for eighty-four (84) months to conduct the Contractor Logistics Support, training, and component assembly support.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-06

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Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Airspace and Surface Radar Reconnaissance (ASRR) system is a tethered aerostat system capable of supporting a variety of surveillance payloads. It incorporates a tethered aerostat with a relocatable mooring system capable of supporting payloads up to 7,000 lbs. at altitudes up to 15,000 ft., which provides surveillance systems with a line of sight of up to 350 km. In addition to the aerostat, each system includes a mobile mooring system, ground control and maintenance shelters, electrical generators and power distribution panel, forklift and man lift, and supply of helium and spare parts. The program will also include system training, maintenance, and in-country support services. Each of the four (4) aerostats will carry a payload consisting of one (1) radar system and one (1) electronic surveillance electronic intelligence (ELINT) sensor system with integrated Identify Friend or Foe (IFF) capability.

a. Radar System. The radar system will include one of the following: ETLA North America ELM-2083, Raytheon KnightWatch, or C-Speed ESR-LWR Radar. These systems comprise of a multi-function radar capable of providing long-range detection of airborne and maritime targets that are static or in motion. The systems can operate in overland, maritime, and air-to-air modes. They display Moving Target Indicator (MTI) tracks overlaid on a Doppler Beam Sharpened (DBS) image. The systems can switch between vertically and horizontally orientated antennas and incorporate an IFF capability of one of the following: Raytheon APX-119, TPX-62, and AS-4664 electronically scanned array (ESA) antennas or Telephonics SFF-44 All-Mode interrogator.

b. ELINT System. The ELINT system will include one of the following: Raytheon Deutschland Advanced Radar Detection System (ARDS), BANC3 TSD-2000, or ETLA North America ELL-8385. These systems comprise of a modular, scalable software-defined radio (SDR) designed for airborne

ELINT missions. The system can search, intercept, collect, geo-locate, analyze, store, and distribute wireless signals.

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

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 which 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 Poland can provide 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 Poland.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, unfortunately, due to COVID-19, I was unable to attend the September 30 roll-call vote No. 247 on passage of the bill H.R. 5860, a bill making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2024 and for other purposes, which passed by a vote of 88-9. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in support of passage.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, as a result of travel with President Biden to Michigan, I was unable to attend vote No. 31 on February 1 on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 477, Lisa W. Wang, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade. During the President's visit, I was able to discuss with him the unique capabilities of Selfridge Air Force Base, to recognize the hard work of Michigan autoworkers, and to emphasize Michigan's national leadership in manufacturing. I would have voted yea on the Motion had I been able to attend.

As a result of travel with President Biden to Michigan, I was unable to attend vote No. 32 on February 1 on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 476, Joseph Albert Laroski, Jr., of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade. During the President's visit, I was able to discuss with him the unique capabilities of Selfridge Air Force Base, to recognize the hard work of Michigan autoworkers, and to emphasize Michigan's national leadership in manufacturing. I would have voted yea on the motion had I been able to attend the vote.

As a result of travel with President Biden to Michigan, I was unable to attend vote No. 33 on February 1 on the Confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 477, Lisa W. Wang, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International

Trade. During the President's visit, I was able to discuss with him the unique capabilities of Selfridge Air Force Base, to recognize the hard work of Michigan autoworkers, and to emphasize Michigan's national leadership in manufacturing. I would have voted yea on the motion had I been able to attend.

REMEMBERING IGNACIO E. LOZANO, JR.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life of Ignacio E. "Nacho" Lozano, Jr., a name synonymous with the rise of Hispanic media in the United States and the legendary, longtime publisher of the Spanish-language newspaper *La Opinion*. He passed away in December at the age of 96.

Nacho Lozano was born in San Antonio to parents Alicia Elizondo Lozano and Ignacio E. Lozano, Sr.—the founder of the San Antonio-based daily newspaper *La Prensa* and, later, the publisher of *La Opinion*, then a little-known daily newspaper for the growing Latino population of Los Angeles.

Lozano long knew where he was headed in life; he set out to study journalism at the University of Notre Dame, began working at *La Opinion* after college, and in 1953, after the death of his father, became its publisher.

When Lozano took the helm of *La Opinion*, it had a circulation of 12,000. By the time Lozano stepped down over 30 years later, it had boomed to 70,000 subscribers, as scores of Spanish speakers in the Los Angeles region had come to claim it as their daily paper. But it didn't just grow in size; Lozano had fundamentally shifted the direction of Spanish-language media. What was once an outlet focused on stories from Mexico and other Spanish-speaking countries grew to dominate a local beat not often covered by major English-language outlets.

Under Lozano's leadership, *La Opinion* became a paper that reflected the emerging Latino audience in Southern California. As he told the *Los Angeles Times* in 1976, "It is no longer a Mexican newspaper published in Los Angeles . . . but an American newspaper which happens to be published in Spanish."

In 1981, after a *La Opinion* photographer was assaulted by Immigration and Naturalization Service agents while reporting on anti-deportation protests, Lozano successfully sued the Federal Government to the tune of \$300,000, defending not only his reporter but the principle of a free and independent Hispanic media.

While editorial control and ownership of *La Opinion* changed hands over time, Lozano represented more to his community and our Nation than just a leading newspaper publisher.

He served as a consultant to the State Department under President Johnson, on the Council of Spanish-Speaking Americans under President

Nixon, and eventually as Ambassador to El Salvador under President Ford.

But back home he held a different title: loving husband to Marta Navarro Lozano for 67 years and caring father to Leticia, Jose, Monica, and Francisco.

Ignacio Lozano, Jr., was a transformative pioneer for Hispanic media, a legend in the Los Angeles community, and a generous benefactor for his cherished causes—from performing arts to student scholarships.

Angela and I send our best to his four children, his nine grandchildren, and to all those in California and across the Nation who have ever turned to the Lozano family and their daily paper to stay informed.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING ARNZEN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

• 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 Arnzen Building Construction as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for February 2024.

Arnzen Building Construction was established in Cottonwood, Idaho in 1987 by Morris B. Arnzen. After attending the University of Idaho, Arnzen entered the construction business in 1979 and began his career at Enneking Building Construction. Following the retirement of George Enneking, Morris purchased Enneking Building Construction and, in 1995, renamed the firm Arnzen Building Construction.

Arnzen Building Construction has played a crucial role in the changing face of North Central Idaho. Their builds and remodels of residential, commercial, educational, medical, and public works projects throughout the region are a testament to their commitment to high-quality construction and workmanship. The Arnzen's leadership and support of the Idaho and Lewis County Fairs, local 4-H chapters, Cottonwood Fire Department, St. Mary's Youth Group, and local hospitals and schools demonstrates their loyalty to constructing not only sturdy buildings, but a strong community.

Congratulations to the Arnzens and all of the employees at Arnzen Building Construction on their selection as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for February 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

As 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:02 p.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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 485. An act to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to prohibit the use of quality-adjusted life years and similar measures in coverage and payment determinations under Federal health care programs.

H.R. 3415. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Midvale Irrigation District the Pilot Butte Power Plant in the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 485. An act to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to prohibit the use of quality-adjusted life years and similar measures in coverage and payment determinations under Federal health care programs; to the Committee on Finance.

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-3484. A communication from the Associate Administrator for Rulemaking, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Child Restraint Systems" (RIN2127-AL34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3485. A communication from the Associate Administrator for Rulemaking, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Bus Rollover Structural Integrity" (RIN2127-AM58) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 6, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3486. A communication from the Associate Administrator for Rulemaking, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Standard; Final Listing of 2021 Light