

motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Dafna Hochman Rand, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Rand nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 764 and 765, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Coast Guard, that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE COAST GUARD

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under Title 14 U.S.C., section 2121(d):

To be rear admiral

John C. Vann

IN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Subject to qualifications provided by law, the following for Director, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps and Office of Marine and Aviation Operations.

To be rear admiral

Chad M. Cary

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE COAST GUARD

*PN440—2 COAST GUARD nomination of ANDREW D. RAY, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 14, 2023.

*PN1803 COAST GUARD nominations (7) beginning NICHOLAS G. DERENZO, and ending ISAAC YATES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 23, 2024.

*PN1804 COAST GUARD nominations (2) beginning Douglas D. Graul, and ending Benedict S. Gullo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 23, 2024.

*PN1900 COAST GUARD nomination of Philip J. Granati, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 20, 2024.

*PN1901 COAST GUARD nominations

(4) beginning DEREK A. WILLIAMS, and ending TRENT J. LAMUN, which nominations were received by the Senate and ap-

peared in the Congressional Record of June 20, 2024.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 574, David O. Barnett, Jr., to be United States Marshal for the District of New Mexico; that the Senate vote on the nomination, without intervening action or debate; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President, be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David O. Barnett, Jr., of New Mexico, to be United States Marshal for the District of New Mexico for the term of four years.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Barnett nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BOOKER. Madam 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.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I was absent on Monday, July 29, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 220. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 702, Adam B. Landy, of South Carolina, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

I was absent on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 222. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the motion to invoke cloture for Executive Calendar No. 708, Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Maine.

I was absent on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 223. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on confirmation for Executive Calendar No. 708, Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Maine.

I was absent on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 224. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the motion to invoke cloture for Ex-

ecutive Calendar No. 710, Meredith A. Vacca, of New York, to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of New York.

I was absent on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 225. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on confirmation for Executive Calendar No. 710, Meredith A. Vacca, of New York, to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of New York.

I was absent on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 226. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 709, Joseph Francis Saporito, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

I was absent on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 227. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the confirmation Executive Calendar No. 709, Joseph Francis Saporito, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

I was absent on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 228. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 582, Dorothy Camille Shea, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Representative to the United Nations, and the Deputy Representative in the Security Council of the United Nations.

I was absent on Thursday, August 1, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 229. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 582, Dorothy Camille Shea, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Representative to the United Nations, and the Deputy Representative in the Security Council of the United Nations.

I was absent on Thursday, August 1, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 230. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the Motion to Invoke Cloture on the Motion to Proceed to Cal. No. 349, H.R. 7024, Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act. •

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CARDIN. Madam 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. 24-62, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Belgium for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$115 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. 24-62

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 Belgium.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$78 million.

Other \$37 million.

Total \$115 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

One hundred ninety-six (196) Guided Bomb Unit (GBU)-53/B Small Diameter Bombs-Increment II (SDB-II) All-Up-Rounds (AURs)

Non-MDE: Also included are SDB-II Weapons Load Crew Trainers (WLCT); training aids and devices; spare and repair parts, consumables, accessories, and repair and return support; unclassified software delivery and support; unclassified publications and technical documentation; major modifications and maintenance support; training and training equipment; munitions support and support equipment; transportation support; studies and surveys; 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 (BE-D-YCA).

(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: July 25, 2024.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Belgium—Small Diameter Bomb-Increment II

The Government of Belgium has requested to buy one hundred ninety-six (196) Guided Bomb Unit (GBU)-53/B Small Diameter Bombs-Increment II (SDB-II) All-Up-Rounds (AURs). Also included are SDB-II Weapons Load Crew Trainers (WLCT); training aids and devices; spare and repair parts, consumables, accessories, and repair and return support; unclassified software delivery and support; unclassified publications and technical documentation; major modifications and maintenance support; training and training equipment; munitions support and support equipment; transportation support; studies and surveys; 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 \$115 million.

This 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 Belgium's capability to meet current and future threats by maintaining its F-35 fleet in combat-ready status and providing a credible deterrent to regional threats. Belgium 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 RTX Corporation, located in Arlington, 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 Belgium.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-62

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 GBU-53/B Small Diameter Bomb-Increment II (SDB-II) is a 250-pound class precision-guided, semiautonomous, conventional, air-to-ground munition used to defeat moving targets from standoff range. The SDB-II has deployable wings and fins and uses Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System (GPS/INS) guidance enabled by Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) or M-Code, network-enabled datalink (Link-16 and ultra-high frequency), and a multi-mode seeker (millimeter wave radar, imaging infrared, semi-active laser) to autonomously search, acquire, track, and defeat a variety of moving or stationary targets, at standoff range or close in, in a variety of attack modes, in clear or adverse weather. The SDB-II employs a multi-effects warhead (blast, fragmentation, and shaped-charge) for maximum lethality against armored and soft targets. The SDB-II weapon system consists of the tactical All-Up-Round (AUR) weapon, a 4-place common carriage system, and Mission Planning System Munitions Application Program (MAP). The SDB-II Weapon Load Crew Trainer (WLCT) is a mass mockup of the tactical AUR used for load crew and maintenance training. It does not contain energetics, a live fuze, any sensitive components, or hazardous material. It is not flight certified.

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 that 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 Belgium 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.

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

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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. 23-79, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Slovakia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$600 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MIKE MILLER,

(for James A. Hursch, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-79

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 Slovakia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$250 million.

Other \$350 million.

Total \$600 million.

Funding Source: FMF Grant and National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twelve (12) AH-1Z attack helicopters.

Twenty-six (26) T-700 GE 401C engines (24 installed, 2 spares).

One thousand six hundred eighty (1,680) Advanced Precision Kill Weapon Systems (APKWS), WGU-59/B.

Fourteen (14) Honeywell embedded global positioning systems (GPS)/inertial navigation systems (INS) (EGIs) (12 installed, 2 spares).

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will also be included: support and test equipment; aircraft; weapons and munitions; countermeasures; integration and test support; spare and repair