

(Moment of silence.)
Amen.

POLITICAL VIOLENCE

Mr. President, I rise tonight in deep sadness for a nation that is increasingly beset by political violence.

Yesterday, political activist Charlie Kirk was killed while speaking to students on a college campus—a place that is set up for the exchange of ideas.

He was just 31 years old, a husband, a father of young children. I pray for his wife Erika and for his children who must now make their way without him.

And his death comes on the heels of the devastating assassination of Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman and her husband Mark Hortman of Minnesota, victims of premeditated political violence. This should shock the conscience of every American, and it should cause all of us to rise up and say: Enough.

Let me be clear. I disagreed with Charlie Kirk on just about everything, but I rise tonight not in spite of those differences but, in a real sense, because of those differences. I rise to say that he had a right to speak, to think, to change his mind or not, to engage with others, to participate in the free exchange of ideas, to argue it out.

That is what it means to live in a democracy. That is who we are. We Americans engage in loud, heated, and sometimes rambunctious debates, not as a precursor to violence but to avoid violence. And we must learn to disagree without becoming violently disagreeable.

Let me be clear. There is nothing more anti-democratic than political violence. Democracy is about creating space for competing voices and countervailing visions about who we are as one people, and that debate in the public square is what has made us better over time.

So while pushing back—sometimes hard—against those with whom we vigorously disagree, we must, with the same voice and vigor, defend their right to be—their right to be heard, to be free.

Our American family is held together by these democratic ideals, but I am afraid that what we are seeing increasingly around us is the tearing of those threads that bind us together—“*e pluribus unum*”; out of many, one—the ability to see past our political differences and see in the humanity of the other a glimpse of our own.

So we must condemn what happened to Charlie Kirk, whether we are on the right or on the left, because condemning that heinous crime is not about the difference between right and left; it is the difference between right and wrong. And what happened yesterday was wrong. Whatever the motivation, this we know: It was wrong. And we have to say that clearly and without hesitation.

I serve as pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, the spiritual home of Martin Luther King, Jr. We all know that Dr. King was a victim of gun violence.

What fewer people remember or know is that in 1974, his precious mother Alberta Williams King, the wife of the pastor of the church, Martin Luther King, Sr., was shot and killed in our church one Sunday morning while playing “The Lord’s Prayer” on the organ.

Martin Luther King, Sr., was asked what he thought about all of this, and I am struck and inspired by his words. Having lost his precious wife on a Sunday morning, having witnessed his son struck down, Martin Luther King, Sr., said:

I will never let any man pull me down so low as to hate him.

He said:

Hate is too heavy a burden to bear.

He is right, and that is why in this moment, we must condemn political violence. But we must also condemn hate and hate speech. You cannot condemn one without condemning the other.

Hate is itself a kind of violence that kills the spirit and corrupts the soul of a person and of a nation. That vicious cycle of violence and hate, of hate and violence can only lead to the demise of our country and the destruction of our humanity.

So in this defining moment, may we resist the seductive sirens of those who are trying to convince us that we are at war with one another. Amidst our fierce debates, I submit that at the end of the day, we are all we have got—the people. All we really have is one another. And a democracy is the imperfect institutionalization of that moral insight. All we have is one another. You either have a democracy, or you have political violence. You cannot have a democracy awash in political violence.

So every single day, let us choose democracy, choose what the Apostle Paul called the more excellent way—the way of love.

Love comes alive in the complicated story of a diverse people who refuse to give up on one another. It takes strength to love. It takes courage to love. It takes patience and persistence to love.

God grant us strength and courage. God grant us patience and persistence for the facing of this hour and for the living of these days.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. 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. JAMES E. RISCH,
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. 25-60, concerning the Air Force’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Finland for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.07 billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-60

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 Finland.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment * \$0.95 billion.
Other \$0.12 billion.
Total \$1.07 billion.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Up to four hundred five (405) AIM-120D-3 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM).

Eight (8) AIM-120D-3 guidance sections, with precise positioning provided by either the Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module or M-Code.

Non-Major or Defense Equipment:

The following non-MDE items will be included: AMRAAM control sections, containers, and support equipment; Common Munitions Built-in Test (BIT)/Reprogramming Equipment (CMBRE); ADU-891 adaptor group test sets; munitions support and support equipment; spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; weapons software and support equipment; classified software delivery and support; classified publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; transportation support; site 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 (FI-D-YAR).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: FI-D-YAK.
 (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: September 10, 2025.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Finland—AIM-120D-3 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles

The Government of Finland has requested to buy up to four hundred five (405) AIM-120D-3 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); and eight (8) AIM-120D-3 guidance sections, with precise positioning provided by either the Selective Availability AntiSpoofing Module or M-Code. The following non-MDE items will be included: AMRAAM control sections, containers, and support equipment; Common Munitions Built-in Test (BIT)/Reprogramming Equipment (CMBRE); ADU-891 adaptor group test sets; munitions support and support equipment; spare parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; weapons software and support equipment; classified software delivery and support; classified publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; transportation support; site 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 \$1.07 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy 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 Finland's capability to meet current and future threats and enhance its interoperability with U.S. and other allied forces. Finland already has AMRAAMs in its inventory and will have no difficulty absorbing these articles 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. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Finland.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-60

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 AIM-120D-3 series Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) is a supersonic, air-launched, aerial intercept, guided missile featuring digital technology and microminiature solid-state electronics. AMRAAM capabilities include look-down/shoot-down, multiple launches against multiple targets, resistance to electronic countermeasures, and interception of high- and low-flying and maneuvering targets. The AIM-120D-3 features a quadrangle target detection device and an electronics unit within

the guidance section that performs all radar signal processing, mid-course and terminal guidance, flight control, target detection, and warhead detonation.

2. The Common Munitions Built-In-Test (BIT)/Reprogramming Equipment (CMBRE) is support equipment used to interface with weapon systems to initiate and report BIT results, and upload and download flight software. CMBRE supports multiple munitions platforms with a range of applications that perform preflight checks, periodic maintenance checks, loading of Operational Flight Program data, loading of munitions mission planning data, loading of Global Positioning System (GPS) cryptographic keys, and declassification of munitions memory.

3. The ADU-891 adaptor group test set provides the physical and electrical interface between the CMBRE and the missile.

4. This potential sale will include AMRAAM guidance and control section spares.

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

6. 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 system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that Finland can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. 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. JAMES E. RISCH,
 Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
 U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No.

25-0W. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 18-03 of July 10, 2018.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
 Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-0W

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the United Kingdom.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 18-03, Date: July 10, 2018, Implementing Agency: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On July 10, 2018, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 18-03 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of up to two hundred (200) AIM-120D Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM). Also included in this sale were missile containers; weapon system support equipment; support and test equipment; site surveys; transportation; repair and return support; warranties; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; maintenance and personnel training; training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost was \$650 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$600 million of this total.

On March 12, 2019, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 0C-19, of the addition of MDE items from what was originally notified: one (1) AMRAAM AIM-120D Integrated Test Vehicle (ITV) and ten (10) AMRAAM Instrumented Air Vehicles. Additionally, this transmittal updated the notification of non-MDE to add embedded communication security devices. The addition of these items resulted in a net increase in cost of MDE to \$618 million. The total case value remained \$650 million.

On November 20, 2024, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 24-0V, of the inclusion of the following MDE items: fifty-six (56) AIM-120D Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); and four (4) AIM-120 AMRAAM guidance sections. The following non-MDE items were also included: weapons systems support and weapons support equipment. The estimated total value of the new items was \$174 million but did not result in an increase to the estimated total case value of \$650 million. The estimated total MDE value remained at \$618 million of this total.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following additional MDE items: two hundred forty-four (244) AIM-120D Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); four (4) AIM-120D-3 AMRAAM guidance sections; and one (1) AMRAAM Integrated Test Vehicle (ITV). The following non-MDE items will also be included: AMRAAM containers, components, parts, and support equipment; KGV-135 A embedded communications security (COMSEC) device; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total value of the new items is \$790 million. The estimated MDE value will increase by \$742 million. The estimated non-MDE value will increase by \$48 million to a revised \$80 million. The estimated total cost will increase by \$790 million to a revised \$1.44 billion. MDE will constitute \$1.36 billion of this total.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided as the additional MDE items were not enumerated in the original notification.