

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

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)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0J-25. 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 25-08 of January 2, 2025.

Sincerely,

MARY BETH MORGAN
(for Michael F. Miller, Director).

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0J-25

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Japan.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 25-08; Date: January 2, 2025; Implementing Agency: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On January 2, 2025, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 25-08 of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of one thousand (1,000) AIM-120D-3 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); two hundred (200) AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM; twenty (20) AIM-120D-3 guidance sections, including precise positioning provided by either Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module or M-Code; and four (4) AIM-120C-8 guidance sections. The following non-MDE were also included: AMRAAM propulsion sections, warheads, AIM-120 Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM), missile containers, and control section spares; Common Munitions Built-in Test (BIT) Reprogramming Equipment (CMBRE); ADU-891 Adaptor Group Test Sets; munitions support and support equipment; spare and repair parts, consumables, accessories, and repair and return support; classified software delivery and support; classified

publications and technical documentation; transportation support; studies and surveys; warranties; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total value was \$3.64 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$3.47 billion of this total.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following non-MDE items: KGV-135A communications security devices. The estimated total value of the new items is \$30 million, but there will be no increase in the previously notified \$0.17 billion non-MDE value. The estimated total value remains \$3.64 billion. MDE constitutes \$3.47 billion of this total.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided because the additional non-MDE item was not enumerated in the original notification. The inclusion of this non-MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. This proposed sale will significantly improve Japan's capability to meet current and future threats by defending its homeland and U.S. personnel stationed there.

(v) Justification: 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 an important force for peace, political stability, and economic progress in the Asia-Pacific region.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The KGV-135A communications security device is a high-speed general purpose encryptor and decryptor module used for wideband data encryption.

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to additional items reported here.

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

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 30, 2025.

REMEMBERING EVAN C. BERQUIST

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, in May, Minnesotans suddenly lost Evan Berquist, of St. Paul. His kindness and thoughtfulness touched the lives of so many people in Minnesota and around the world who miss him dearly. I wish to extend my deepest sympathy to his family and loved ones as they continue to mourn his passing.

I ask unanimous consent that his obituary be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

EVAN C. BERQUIST OBITUARY

St. Paul—Berquist, Evan C. 43, a beloved husband, father, and son, died unexpectedly on May 9th, 2025. Evan was born in St. Paul, MN to Alice and Charles Berquist on January 27, 1982. From the very beginning, Evan was a thoughtful, kind, intellectual, and fun person with an uncanny knack for connecting with people. He was the best older brother to Blake Berquist, constantly playing with, picking on, guiding, and supporting him. He graduated from St. Paul Academy before going to Colorado College, where he studied history and Spanish and graduated with honors. Evan met his wife and best friend, Laura K. Berquist (née Walski), during a college trip to the Pacific Northwest. It was obvious they were going to be partners for life from the start. They formed a deep connection, exchanging handwritten love

letters at a time when communicating by email and text message was prolific. Evan and Laura supported each other through first jobs in far flung places, graduate and law school. They married in August of 2010. After college, Evan leaned into his love of language and adventure. He worked at a hot dog factory in Costa Rica and then at a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit, supporting democracy strengthening programs in Latin America. Evan attended Stanford Law School in northern California and clerked for a federal judge in Puerto Rico. It was in Puerto Rico where Evan and Laura had their son, Tim. They enjoyed exploring the island together and taking life slowly. Work opportunities brought them back to St. Paul, where they welcomed their daughter, Sasha. Evan loved Tim and Sasha with all of his heart. He was never happier than when reading with Tim and talking about the wide world. They were fierce wrestling competitors in the swimming pool. Evan cherished and supported Sasha's creativity. He and Sasha could often be found working together on imaginative writing, self-publishing many stories and humorous cartoons together. Evan admired Sasha's joy for acting and was so proud watching her perform. In the evenings, Evan and Laura would get lost in long conversations, often staying up too late in the process. They connected over long walks with their dogs, Tilla and Penny. Evan continued his career in Minnesota, working in private law practice for the next 12 years, most recently for Maslon LLC. He dedicated significant time to his pro bono work, helping many organizations in the Twin Cities, and was recognized for his important work with many accolades. In his free time, Evan appreciated simple times with loved ones. Golfing with his mom, brother, and friends. Taking trips. Teaching his kids how to bodysurf in big waves. Evan was always reading—devouring any book, newspaper, or magazine in sight. Evan faced chronic pain with quiet determination for most of his life, confronting it privately through research, physical therapy, and medical protocols. In recent months, Evan endured difficult injuries, his health challenges intensified, and his mental health suffered. He sought help and worked tirelessly to get better. Despite his courageous efforts and the devoted support of his family, Evan's illness and pain became too much to overcome. Through it all, Evan remained a loving father, playmate, and partner to Laura, Sasha, and Tim. He will be dearly missed and loved forever. Evan is survived by his loving wife Laura Berquist and two children, Tim and Sasha Berquist; parents Alice and Charles Berquist, brother Blake Berquist (Andrea Larson) and many family members and friends whom he loved. Service details will be forthcoming. In lieu of flowers, donations in Evan's memory can be made to the Berquist Family. Laura, Tim and Sasha will spend time talking about Evan's big heart and commitment to service and carefully choose charity recipients in his name.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO KELLEY ERSTINE

● Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, today I would like to offer my congratulations to Mr. Kelley Erstine for his induction into the Arkansas Insurance Hall of Fame. A native of Sheridan, AR, Mr. Erstine is the CEO of Independent Insurance Agents of Arkansas. As CEO,

he has dedicated his career to advancing the insurance industry in the Natural State with excellence, professionalism, and a commitment to serving his fellow Arkansans. I would like to recognize Mr. Erstine for this professional achievement, for his more than 20 years of work in the insurance industry, and for his numerous contributions to the state of Arkansas.●

RECOGNIZING 319 DECOR & DESIGN

● Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to honor 319 Decor & Design of Grundy County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 2017, Katie Lewis followed her dream of becoming an interior designer and founded 319 Decor & Design. From a young age, Katie had a passion for creativity and design, often reorganizing her own room. Inspired by her grandmothers and her mother, a small business owner, she launched her business fresh out of college at the age of 21. She began by offering interior styling plans and cabinetry design, steadily expanding her services over time. During the pandemic, Katie worked to grow her business through creative marketing and product diversification. Today, she also encourages other entrepreneurs to pursue their passions, drawing on the support and mentorship that helped her succeed.

What began with simple design planning has grown into a full-service business. Today, 319 Decor & Design offers full-service design, including cabinetry, paint plans, and even a "Room Sweep" service to refresh individual spaces. Additionally, 319 Decor & Design operates a retail store featuring home decor, furniture, lighting, and a children's boutique. With options to shop in person, online, or through curbside pickup, Katie has made 319 Decor & Design a one-stop shop for all home design needs. Together with her team of two interior designers and three store associates, Katie delivers budget-friendly, personalized design experiences that reflect each client's unique style and story.

Katie and 319 Decor & Design are also deeply committed to their community. The company is a proud member of Grundy Center Chamber Main Street, and Katie has also worked with the Small Business Development Center, which she credits with playing a major role in her success. Katie has been involved in the chamber since 2017, first serving as design chair. She now serves as the vice president of the Grundy Center Chamber Main Street, where she helps organize downtown events and supports the mission of strengthening Iowa's communities. 319 Decor & Design exemplifies how small businesses not only drive local economies

but also inspire others to pursue their dreams.

Over the past 8 years, 319 Decor & Design has built a reputation for creativity, flexibility, and a personalized approach towards all their projects. What began as a young girl's dream has grown into a thriving design firm, serving Iowa and beyond. It is my honor to recognize Katie Lewis and the entire 319 Decor & Design team for their outstanding work and dedication to their community. I look forward to their continued success and wish them the very best in the years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO BRENDA GALLAGHER AND PAM HALSEY

● Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Brenda Gallagher of Meredith and Pam Halsey of Center Harbor as September's Granite Staters of the Month. Pam and Brenda have tirelessly worked to protect our environment, including by promoting the preservation of habitats for New Hampshire birds.

Pam and Brenda share a love of swimming and a deep appreciation for the loon, a black and white bird that is prolific in the Lakes Region, and is known for its haunting call. The loon is a symbol of the wild beauty of our State, but the local birds have been threatened by lead poisoning from fishing tackles. Brenda's aunt was one of the founding members of the Loon Preservation Committee and taught Brenda the importance of safeguarding the birds and their habitats. Both women grew up vacationing on Lake Winnepesaukee and now live in the Lakes Region full-time. In 2015, the two friends decided to swim around the islands of Lake Winnepesaukee to raise awareness of both loon preservation and the importance of maintaining good water quality in New Hampshire's lakes.

Continuing their advocacy for New Hampshire's lakes, this year Pam and Brenda decided to push themselves even further and tackle all of the islands in Squam Lake. During the months of July and August, they swam around 28 of Squam's islands, islands that ranged in circumference from 0.12 miles to 2.6 miles, completing swims around one to four islands per day as part of their goal to swim around each island. And they weren't alone on these swims. In addition to friends and family who helped ferry them out to the islands in small boats and kept them safe from other oncoming boats, they were also often joined by loons. The daunting feat was their way of raising awareness for their cause of protecting loons and New Hampshire's lakes.

Pam and Brenda's dedication to the conservation of our State's lakes and wildlife is a true example of the Granite State spirit of outdoor stewardship. Their steadfast and heartfelt commitment to New Hampshire's wilderness is why I am privileged to name them September's Granite Staters of the month.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Holstead, 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 and withdrawals 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 10:03 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3838. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

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-1895. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of firearms, parts, and components controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Denmark in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-083) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1896. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to the United Kingdom in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-038) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1897. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Secretary of State's intent to designate Balochistan Liberation Army as a Foreign Terrorist Organization received in the office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1898. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Secretary of State's intent to designate Lashkar-e-Tayyiba as a Foreign Terrorist Organization received in the office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.