

return support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, and support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost was \$6.75 billion. Major defense equipment (MDE) constituted \$5.61 billion of this total.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MDE items: ten thousand (10,000) BLU-111 500-pound general purpose bombs. The following non-MDE items will also be included: other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost of the new items is \$209 million. The estimated MDE value will increase by \$170 million to a revised \$5.78 billion. The estimated non-MDE value will increase by \$39 million to a revised \$1.179 billion. The estimated total case value will increase by \$209 million to a revised \$6.959 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification accounts for requested additional MDE items not included in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed articles and services will improve Israel's capability to meet current and future air-to-air and air-to-ground threats, strengthen its homeland defense, and serve as a deterrent to regional threats.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic regional partner that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The BLU-111 is a 500-pound (nominal weight) general-purpose bomb with identical casing, shape, and flight characteristics, designed for use against soft, fragment-sensitive targets.

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

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: March 11, 2026.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TRANSMITTAL NO. 26-32
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

(i) (U) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Israel.

(ii) (U) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$150.0 million.
Other \$1.8 million.
Total \$151.8 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Twelve thousand (12,000) BLU-110A/B general purpose, 1,000-pound bomb bodies.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) (U) Military Department: Navy (IS-P-AVU).

(v) (U) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) (U) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) (U) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) (U) Date Report Delivered to Congress: March 12, 2026.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

(U) Israel—Munitions and Munitions Support

(U) The Government of Israel has requested to buy twelve thousand (12,000) BLU-

110A/B general purpose, 1,000-pound bomb bodies. The following non-major defense equipment items will also be included: U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$151.8 million.

(U) This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic regional partner that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

(U) The proposed sale will improve Israel's capability to meet current and future threats, strengthen its homeland defense, and serve as a deterrent to regional threats. Israel will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

(U) The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

(U) The principal contractor will be Repkon USA, located in Garland, TX. Part of the BLU-110 A/B requirement will be transferred from stock. 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.

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

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26-32

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:

I. (U) The BLU-110A/B are general purpose 1,000-pound bombs used by the Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and foreign partners. The BLU-110 series general purpose bomb is a 1,000-pound warhead used for unguided delivery in either low or high drag mode, or guided weapons when a guidance kit is attached. It is designed for soft, fragment-sensitive targets and is not intended for hard targets or penetrations.

2. (U) The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

3. (U) 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.

4. (U) A determination has been made that Israel 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.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT STIVERS

• Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a good

friend of mine and a titan of Kentucky politics. He is the steady hand that has led the Kentucky State Senate as president for a record of more than 12 years—and counting—during which time his leadership has delivered exceptional wins for the Commonwealth. His name is Robert Stivers.

Senator Stivers broke the record for longest serving Kentucky Senate leader last November, and as someone familiar with breaking a similar record, I am honored to recognize my friend, fellow leader, and a true Kentucky statesman of our time. I ask my colleagues to please join with me in applauding President Stivers on achieving this milestone and celebrating his impressive service over the years on behalf of his constituents and all Kentuckians.

Robert's mother Joan graduated from Harvard and moved from Massachusetts to Clay County in eastern Kentucky where she met and married Bertram Stivers, a prominent lawyer who later served as a circuit judge. They were married 57 years and raised four children in eastern Kentucky, instilling in each of them a deep value of education and strong roots anchored in the mountains.

When Robert ran for the 25th Senate District for the first time in 1996, the Beattyville Enterprise praised him stating, "He's made of the same stuff as we are . . .". There is no doubt that Robert leads every single day with the interests of his constituents at the forefront of his decisions. He is a proud graduate of the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville—like me—and his legislative work shows his understanding of how critically important these universities are to our Commonwealth's success.

After being elected to the Kentucky State Senate, he quickly made a name for himself working on important legislation and building relationships within his conference and across the aisle. This diligence earned him the trust of his colleagues who elected him to the position of majority floor leader in 2008. Robert held this position until being elected senate president in 2013. His accomplishments are numerous, and Kentuckians across the Commonwealth have undoubtedly felt his impact.

Senator Stivers has led the charge on combatting drug abuse and maintains an unwavering commitment to helping find solutions to this issue that plagues his constituents and so many other Kentucky residents. He has paved the way for increased cancer research funding and operations at the University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center. In the most recent State budget, President Stivers helped UK secure \$20 million, and previously, he helped them acquire designation as a Comprehensive Cancer Center, which allowed increased access to Federal funding and attracted top talent in the medical research field. President Stivers' work in these spaces has improved thousands of lives and continues to set Kentucky up for future success in healthcare.

Robert is a champion for Kentucky businesses, tirelessly pushing for significant incentives that attract investment to the Commonwealth. These include lowering the State income tax, providing tax credits to the entertainment industry, and a host of other policies, all of which have helped foster a business-friendly atmosphere in Kentucky. And it is worth noting that all of President Stivers' legislative wins have been accompanied by an impressive stewardship of taxpayer dollars, ensuring Kentuckians are being served by good government and not losing their hard-earned dollars to wasteful spending.

Kentucky's bourbon industry has President Stivers as a close ally in the legislature. He helped change the State tax code to ease costs for the bourbon industry and change the flow of revenue so that our signature industry's success drives other sectors of Kentucky's economy, including education. Economic development in Kentucky is rapidly increasing, and when we search for those to thank, we should look no further than Robert Stivers.

In his role, he has also worked to elevate Kentucky's profile in national legislative organizations. He has served as chair of the Southern Legislative Conference, chair of the Council of State Governments, and as chair of the Senate Presidents Forum. In 2015, he was recognized by *Governing Magazine* as Public Official of the Year.

President Stivers leads with integrity every day, and while his portfolio proves an incredibly successful career, Robert's character is what distinguishes him the most. As a good listener and collaborator, he helps resolve disputes among his colleagues to make sure that minor disagreements refrain from blocking monumental progress. This is what it takes to make things happen, and Robert exemplifies this type of leadership all the time.

As a prudent advocate for Kentucky, Robert has been an invaluable partner in my work in the U.S. Senate. I have always seen it as my duty to ensure Kentucky punches above its weight in securing Federal funding, and I have had the pleasure of working with Senator Stivers on these efforts for many years. I am grateful for Robert's friendship and his steadfast leadership in the Kentucky State Senate. He is a trusted adviser, and I am honored to work with him on behalf of our constituents.

There is no doubt that Robert's work has made Kentucky a better place and has set our Commonwealth up for tremendous success. I know his family, and especially his four children, are incredibly proud of what he has been able to accomplish. So once again, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Robert Stivers for becoming the longest serving State senate leader in Kentucky history. ●

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.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 4064. A bill to provide for a system of regulation of the offer and sale of digital commodities by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator TINA SMITH, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Irving Dennis, of Ohio, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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-2969. 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 Kuwait in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-117) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2970. 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 amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Australia in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-116) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2971. 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 amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Japan in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-111) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2972. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Depart-

ment of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) 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 Norway in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-107) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2973. 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 amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Poland, and Luxembourg in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-095) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2974. 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 amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Japan in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-115) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2975. 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 Ukraine in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-127) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2976. 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 Ukraine in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-139) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2977. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 3(d)(3) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed transfer of major defense equipment procured under a foreign military sale from the Government of Norway to the Government of Ukraine in the amount of \$14,000,000 or more (RSAT Case 25-11473) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2978. 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 the Republic of Korea in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 25-123) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2979. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to