degree of protection for sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sustainment program is necessary to the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justification.

6. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Finland.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY. Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,

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. 17-77. concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Finland for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$112.7 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely.

CHARLES W. HOOPER, Lieutenant General, USA, Director, Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-77

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 * \$92.6 million.

Other \$20.1 million.

Total \$112.7 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Sixty-eight (68) Evolved SEASPARROW Missiles (ESSM).

One (1) ESSM inert operational missile.

Non-MDE: Also included are seventeen (17) MK25 quad pack canisters, eight (8) MK783 shipping containers, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, training, U.S. Government/Contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services and technical assistance, and other related elements of logistical support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (FI-P-LBP)

(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 5, 2018.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Finland-Evolved SEASPARROW Missiles (ESSM)

The Government of Finland has requested a possible sale of sixty-eight (68) Evolved SEASPARROW Missiles (ESSM) and one (1) ESSM inert operational missile. Also included are seventeen (17) MK25 quad pack canisters, eight (8) MK783 shipping containers, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, training, U.S. Government/ Contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services and technical assistance, and other related elements of logistical support. The estimated total case value is \$112.7 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a partner nation that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

Finland intends to use the missiles on its new Squadron 2020 class Corvette ships. The missiles will provide enhanced capabilities in effective defense of critical sea lanes and improve Finland's capability to meet current and future threats of enemy anti-ship weapons. Finland has not purchased ESSM previously, but will have no difficulty incorporating this capability into its naval 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 Missile Systems (RMS) Tucson, AZ, for the missiles, and BAE Systems, Aberdeen, SD, for the missile canisters. The purchaser typically requests offsets. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require up to 12 U.S. Government personnel to travel to Finland providing support over a period of five years.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-77

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 Evolved SEASPARROW missiles (ESSM) includes the guidance section, warhead section, transition section, propulsion section, control section, and Thrust Vector Control (TVC) of which the guidance section and transition section are classified CON-FIDENTIAL. Standard missile documentation will include:

a. Parametric documents (classified CON-

FIDENTIAL). b. Missile Handling/Maintenance Procedures (UNCLASSIFIED).

c. General Performance Data (classified CONFIDENTIAL).

d. Firing Guidance (classified CONFIDEN-TIAL).

e. Dynamics Information (classified CON-FIDENTIAL).

The Evolved SEASPARROW Missile (ESSM) contains SENSITIVE technological information and/or RESTRICTED information in the missile guidance section. Certain operating frequencies and performance characteristics are classified SECRET because they could be used to develop tactics and/or countermeasures to reduce or defeat the missile effectiveness.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of specific hardware, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapons system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

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

5. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Finland.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN BREWER

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize John Brewer

and his excellent service as a part of our team. Going into my first term as Senator, I was proud to be the first Marvland Senator in almost 100 years to serve in the Senate Agriculture Committee. Understanding the importance of this role, John hit the ground running as our USDA fellow. With his past experience in both public and private sectors, John leaned into every project, from advocating on behalf of land grant universities to funding nutrition programs, with great enthusiasm that stemmed from his dedication to serve the needs of Marylanders. Besides his vast expertise, we will miss his kindness and dedication. Although we wish we didn't have to give him back to the Department of Agriculture, my whole staff and I know he will continue to achieve great things.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM U. HILL

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Wyoming Supreme Court Justice William U. Hill.

After serving over 19 years on the judicial bench, Justice Hill is retiring from the Wyoming Supreme Court on February 16, 2018. As an outstanding jurist and public servant, he dedicated his life to serving the people of Wyoming. Justice Hill's wisdom and unwavering dedication to the law has had a tremendous impact on our State.

Justice Hill has deep roots in Wyoming. He was raised in Riverton, WY. In 1970, he earned his B.A. in English from the University of Wyoming. Justice Hill graduated from the University of Wyoming College of Law in 1974. Throughout his successful career, he held several important positions in the government. He was an Assistant U.S. Attorney, an assistant attorney general for Wyoming, and attorney general for Wyoming. In addition, he worked as the chief of staff and chief counsel in Washington, DC, for U.S. Senator Malcolm Wallop. Justice Hill also worked in private practice in Cheyenne, WY; Riverton, WY; and Seattle, WA.

On November 3, 1998, Wyoming Governor Jim Geringer appointed Justice Hill to the Wyoming Supreme Court. He was elected as the 44th chief justice of the Wyoming Supreme Court in 2002. During his 4 years as chief justice, he oversaw the administrative responsibilities of the Wyoming court system, as well as ran the scheduling, case assignments, and court proceedings. Justice Hill also served as chairman of the judicial nominating commission and chairman of the board of judicial policy and administration. He demonstrated great leadership and distinction in each of these significant roles.

Supreme Court Justices can have a lasting impact on a State and its future. Justice Hill leaves a legacy of consistency and fidelity to the law. He always strived to uphold justice and ensure a fair judgment in every case.