

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. 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.

TRIBUTE TO JAY GRASSLEY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, my wife Barbara and I traveled to Carroll, IA, for the induction of our youngest son, Jay Grassley, to the Iowa Girls Coaches' Association Hall of Fame. Jay earned this honor through his work over the last 29 years as a volleyball official. Jay has officiated the most Iowa high school volleyball finals in history with 14 games. With one exception, Jay has officiated at every Iowa State volleyball tournament since 1995. This outstanding record demonstrates Jay's dedication to his work as an official.

In addition to his officiating, Jay has been a coach and mentor to volleyball players for more than 30 years. His interest in volleyball started when he was a student at the University of Northern Iowa. Jay started the Six Pack Volleyball Club in 1990, and after years of building a strong reputation, his team earned the USA Volleyball 18s Division National Championship title in 2011.

As I travel across Iowa for my annual 99 county meetings, I often run into Iowans whose relationship with Jay has had a lasting impact. They commonly ask that I tell Jay "hi" and follow with a story of how he was a mentor and coach to them or one of their children. As a father, those are heartwarming sentiments for me to hear. Jay's kind nature and motivational spirit help him to connect with people of all ages and make his influence all the more worthwhile. At the hall of fame induction, Jay's fellow coaches and officials described him as "one of, if not the best, official(s) out there."

Barbara and I are very proud of Jay being named to the Iowa Girls Coaches' Association Hall of Fame.

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 informa-

tion is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such 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,
Arlington, VA.

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. 19-0P. 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 13-40 of July 9, 2013.

Sincerely,

GREGORY M. KAUSNER,
(For Charles W. Hooper, Lieutenant
General, USA, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19-0P

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of France.

(ii) Sec 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 13-40; Date: July 9, 2013; Military Department: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On July 9, 2013, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 13-40 of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of 16 MQ-9 Reaper Remotely Piloted Aircraft; 8 Mobile Ground Control Stations; 48 Honeywell TPE331-10T Turboprop Engines (16 installed and 32 Spares); 24 Satellite Earth Terminal Substations; 40 Ku Band Link-Airborne Communication Systems; 40 General Atomics Lynx (exportable) Synthetic Aperture Radar/Ground Moving Target Indicator (SAR/GMTI) Systems; 40 AN/DAS-1 Multi-Spectral Targeting System (MTS)-B; 40 Ground Data Terminals; 40 ARC-210 Radio Systems; 40 Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation Systems; and 48 AN/APX-119 and KIV-119 Identify Friend or Foe (IFF) Systems. Also provided are spare and repair parts, communication, test, and support equipment, publications and technical documentation, airworthiness and maintenance support, site surveys and bed down planning, personnel training and training equipment, operational flight test, U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics personnel services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated total cost was \$ 1.5 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MOE) constituted \$765 million of this total.

On July 26, 2018, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 18-0B of the retrofit of MQ-9s to become weapons capable, and the inclusion of 100 GBU-49 Enhanced Paveway dual mode GPS and laser guided bomb kits comprised of MXU-650 Air Foil Group (AFG) and MAU-210 Enhanced Computer Control Group (ECCG); 200 FMU-152 fuzes; 650 AGM-114R Hellfire missiles, with active warheads; 45 AGM-114R Hellfire training missiles, without active warhead; and 6 Hellfire Captive Air Training Missiles. The retrofit and inclusion of MDE not enumerated in the original notification

resulted in an increase in the cost of MDE by \$210 million. The new MDE cost was \$975 million. The total case value increased to \$1.71 billion.

This transmittal reports the:

1) retrofit of four (4) MQ-9A Block 1 to MQ-9A Block 5;

2) addition of four (4) MQ-9A Block 5; and
3) addition of fourteen (14) Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) with GPS Security Devices.

The MDE cost of these items is \$80 million, resulting in a new MDE cost of \$1.055 billion. The total case value will remain \$1.71 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided as the retrofit of the MQ-9A systems and the inclusion of MDE items not originally notified represent an increase in capability over what was originally notified. This equipment will provide France's MQ-9 program with the equipment necessary to support the capability requested.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally which continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in Western Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The MQ-9A is a long-endurance, medium altitude Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) that can be used for surveillance, military reconnaissance, and targeting missions. MQ-9A is capable of performing real-time flown under the control of a pilot in a Ground Control Station (GCS). A data link is maintained that uplink commands and downlink video with telemetry data. The data link can be a Line-of-Sight (LOS) CB and communication or Beyond Line-of-Sight (BLOS) Ku-Band Satellite Communication (SATCOM). Aircraft can be handed off to other strategically placed ground control stations. The MQ-9A is designed to carry 800 pounds of internal payload with maximum fuel and can carry multiple mission payload aloft such as kinetics, Electro-Optical/Infrared (EO/IR), Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), and other laser target designators. Block 5 includes a redesigned forward avionics bay, NSA Type 1 encrypted data links, enhanced power, dual wing-tip ARC-210 radios, payload control computer, enhanced HMI and payload control in GCS.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 22, 2019.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL T.
CARRIGAN

● Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the outstanding career of Michael T. Carrigan. Mr. Carrigan is retiring as president of the Illinois AFL-CIO following a long and distinguished career in public service.

After growing up in Bradley, IL, Mr. Carrigan graduated from MacMurray College in Jacksonville. He then completed a 4-year apprenticeship program and became a wireman before serving as business manager and financial secretary for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 146.

In 1995, Mr. Carrigan was elected to the Decatur City Council. He was appointed mayor of Decatur in 2008 to complete the term of another, retiring mayor. In 2010, he became president of the Illinois AFL-CIO, where he has spent the last 20 years advocating for workers and families across my State.

Among the many victories Mr. Carrigan has secured for working families, he recently helped successfully push for a minimum wage increase in Illinois and a \$45 billion State infrastructure package. He has been lauded for his “steady hand” and leadership and will no doubt be missed by his membership and everyone in Illinois that supports the rights of working people.

I thank Mr. Carrigan for his service to the State of Illinois, and I wish him all the best in retirement.●

RECOGNIZING R & H MACHINE, INC.

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today I am pleased to honor R & H Machine, Inc., located in Caldwell, as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for December 2019.

R & H Machine’s story began on a wheat farm in Washington State in the 1950s. In an effort to supplement their income, wheat farmers Ray and Arline Stueckle began welding and selling replacement farm equipment made of chrome alloy, a durable material that greatly expanded the lifecycle of farm equipment. After several decades of growth, the family business moved its operations to Caldwell in 1978 to better serve its clientele across the Pacific Northwest.

Today, R & H Machine is owned and operated by the Stueckles’ daughter and son-in-law, Kathy and Dave Organ. The business manufactures and sells a product line of about 1,500 parts made from chrome alloy and distributes thousands of farm tools across the U.S. R & H Machine equipment is estimated to last about 15 years longer than the life of standard equipment and three to five times longer than the life of hard-faced equipment. Dave Organ is constantly designing and developing new parts at the request of his customers. The Organ family prides itself on upholding the founder’s commitment to providing the farmer the best deal possible and a superior product.

Congratulations to Dave and Kathy Organ and all of the employees at R & H Machine, Inc., for being selected as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for December 2019. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages

from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

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-3310. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Clothianidin; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 10000-64) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 22, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3311. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cyflumetofen; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9996-61) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 22, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3312. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “DFAS Privacy Act Program” (RIN0790-AK70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3313. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018, with respect to Nicaragua; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3314. A communication from the President of the United States to the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Act, a report relative to the deployment of U.S. forces to the Middle East to protect United States interests and enhance force protection in the region against hostile action by Iran and its proxy forces; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 1349. A bill to expand enrollment in TSA PreCheck to expedite commercial travel screening and improve airport security (Rept. No. 116-163).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MCSALLY:
S. 2959. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to modify the reductions in

Medicaid DSH allotments; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. JONES):

S. 2960. A bill to require individuals fishing for Gulf reef fish to use certain descending devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 2961. A bill to establish duties for online service providers with respect to end user data that such providers collect and use; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PAUL:
S. 2962. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit withdrawals from certain retirement plans for repayment of student loan debt, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 133

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 133, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States merchant mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

S. 227

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 227, a bill to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 277

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 277, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Fred Korematsu, in recognition of his dedication to justice and equality.

S. 359

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 359, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income certain Federally-subsidized loan repayments for dental school faculty.

S. 521

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 521, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 866

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois