

technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Switzerland.

#### 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 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)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 20-76 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the United Kingdom for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$401.3 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,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20-76

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: The Government of the United Kingdom

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$0.0 million.

Other \$401.3 million.

Total \$401.3 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

None.

Non-MDE: Follow-on C-17 aircraft Contractor Logistical Support (CLS) to include aircraft component spare and repair parts; accessories; publications and technical documentation; software and software support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (UK-D-QDQ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: UK-D-QDD.

(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: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivery to Congress: September 24, 2020.

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

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

United Kingdom—Follow-on Contractor Logistics Support (CLS) for C-17 Aircraft

The Government of the United Kingdom has requested to buy follow-on C-17 aircraft Contractor Logistical Support (CLS) to include aircraft component spare and repair parts; accessories; publications and technical documentation; software and software support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$401.3 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a key NATO Ally, which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

This proposed sale will improve the United Kingdom's capability to meet current and future threats by ensuring the operational readiness of the Royal Air Force. Its C-17 aircraft fleet provides strategic airlift capabilities that directly support U.S. and coalition operations around the world. The United Kingdom will have no difficulty absorbing these services into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractor will be The Boeing Company of Chicago, IL. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

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

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

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO LAURA NOWLIN

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Laura Nowlin of Teton County for her compassion and dedication to her community.

Since 1986, Laura has devoted her time to working at the Teton County Food Pantry as both a volunteer and a member of the executive board. Over the course of her 33 years at the food pantry, she ensured families in the community had healthy and hearty groceries with no exceptions. Rain or shine, Laura was always there to help the people of Teton County get the nutrition they needed.

Recently named the board member emeritus of the pantry, Laura will be dearly missed by her colleagues. Her unwavering selflessness was an incredibly valuable asset to both the pantry and her community and will continue to be in her new capacity.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Laura for her tireless service to the

people of Teton County. Her kindness and charitable approach to work serves as an inspiration to all Montanans who serve our communities.●

##### TRIBUTE TO MISTY BRITT

• Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I would like to recognize Misty Britt, an ICU nurse at Kings Daughters Medical Center in my hometown of Brookhaven, MS. During the pandemic, Misty has truly stepped up to be a leader in the hospital. She manages the nurses on her rotation, picks up extra shifts; reads, studies, and learns about the virus; and has helped streamline the workflow to make the environment in the hospital more manageable for health care workers and patients.

Misty cares for her patients with compassion and empathy. She holds their hand when they are afraid, assists with family FaceTime calls when family isn't allowed to visit, and forms close relationships with each patient by offering love and encouragement. No matter the circumstance, Misty is by her patient's side helping them fight every day for their lives. It is nurses like Misty who do the mundane and the heroic work with tender loving care and are able to provide patients more comfort during difficult times.

For nurses all over our Nation, it is overwhelming to witness what COVID is doing to their patients. The physical, emotional, and mental stress of their work continues to mount. Every day, they go to work knowing they may lose another patient and endure more emotional strain. I am grateful for the hard work and personal sacrifice Misty and other ICU nurses undertake. They have my admiration.●

##### TRIBUTE TO LARUE LAMBERT

• Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I would like to recognize, Larue Lambert, who has worked for Kings Daughters Medical Center in Brookhaven, MS, for over 20 years. Mr. Lambert worked as an ICU nurse before moving into the house coordinator position, where he monitors admissions and discharges, staffing needs, patient census, responds to emergencies, and compiles detailed reports for the chief nurse.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr. Lambert has picked up additional responsibilities to ensure the hospital is functioning smoothly on a daily basis. Personal protective equipment was a huge concern for all hospitals at the beginning of the pandemic. Mr. Lambert closely monitors the hospital's PPE inventory and would distribute it to units that were in need. Additionally, he picked up extra shifts when staffing levels were low. As a frontline healthcare worker, Mr. Lambert selflessly puts his life in danger each day to care for his fellow Mississippians.

Larue risks not only his personal health, but the health of his close friends and family each day while he assists in the fight against this pandemic. I commend Larue Lambert for

bravely stepping up to the fight against COVID-19 for the past several months, and I pray that he may be granted safety and good health as he continues to serve others. He is a hero in our Brookhaven community, and I am grateful for what he has meant to so many during the pandemic.●

#### TRIBUTE TO TAMMY LIVINGSTON

● Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I would like to commend a friend and frontline healthcare worker, Tammy Livingston, who is a nurse at Kings Daughters Medical Center in my hometown of Brookhaven, MS. Rural hospitals like this one, along with their brave staff, are the backbone of healthcare in Mississippi.

Tammy has worked at Kings Daughters Medical Center for over 20 years. While she has served in many positions within the hospital, she is currently the patient care coordinator. In her role, she cares for some of the sickest patients in the hospital by assisting her colleagues with patients in the ICU. Within the dedicated medical unit for COVID patients at Kings Daughters, Tammy monitors patients daily, making sure they are comfortable and cared for at such a difficult time.

Tammy is invaluable to the Kings Daughters Medical Center. Tammy is put in situations every day where she endures heavy stress, heart-wrenching situations, and puts herself in harm's way to care for patients and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic. She is a lifesaver and best friend to all of her patients. Tammy is a healthcare hero. I am thankful for our fighters like Tammy and pray that she may be kept safe while she serves her friends, family, and community through this pandemic.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINA MILLER

● Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I commend Christina Miller, a healthcare hero and someone who puts her life in danger every day to help save lives. Christina is an emergency room nurse at Kings Daughters Medical Center in Brookhaven, MS.

Christina demonstrates a remarkable selflessness and level of compassion for her patients and coworkers. As more Americans became infected with COVID-19, hospitals began to fill up and staffing became a challenge. Christina immediately stepped up and volunteered to orient on the ICU floor to help with staffing needs to help care and treat the sickest patients.

Not only does Christina give the utmost care to her patients, she also realizes the physical and emotional strain all healthcare workers are feeling during these unprecedented times. Christina wanted to help encourage her colleagues, so she began an employee appreciation program among the emergency room nurses. This gave the nurses something to look forward to when they arrived at work.

Throughout our Nation's history, everyday Americans bravely emerge in times of turmoil to aid their neighbors. In the case of Christina, she has fought on the frontlines as a nurse by stepping into harm's way to provide care for patients affected by the virus.

Mississippi first responders and healthcare providers have experienced a drastic change not only in their professional life but also in their home life. The COVID-19 pandemic has been demanding of their time, taken them away from their loved ones, and caused their worlds to totally change. These heroes, such as Christina, are walking examples of what selfless service looks like.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. JEFFREY ROSS

● Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Dr. Jeffrey Ross of Kings Daughters Medical Center in Brookhaven. Dr. Ross has both served and cared for his community since he first started practicing medicine in Brookhaven in 1990 and has risen to the challenge of COVID-19 with great distinction. Doctors like Dr. Jeff Ross are working through both physical and mental exhaustion during this pandemic. They have the burden of having the "final say" and a team of healthcare providers relying on their instruction daily. The stress presented in these situations is not something healthcare providers can simply turn off when they go off the clock. Despite all of this pressure, these doctors continue to do their job, selflessly managing the care of their fellow Mississippians.

Originally from Whitfield, MS, Dr. Ross earned his medical degree in Jackson before pursuing his residency in Kentucky. He returned to Mississippi, where he has dedicated nearly all of his adult life to serving his neighbors. Dr. Ross and his wife, Susan, have raised three children in the Brookhaven community.

I commend Dr. Jeffrey Ross for his personal sacrifice, dedication to his community, and his leadership. My State is fortunate to have doctors such as him who are focused on the health and wellness of all Mississippians.●

#### 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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING A NATIONAL EMERGENCY TO DEAL WITH THE THREAT POSED BY OUR NATION'S UNDUE RELIANCE ON CRITICAL MINERALS, IN PROCESSED OR UNPROCESSED FORM, FROM FOREIGN ADVERSARIES—PM 59

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) (IEEPA), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order declaring a national emergency to deal with the threat posed by our Nation's undue reliance on critical minerals, in processed or unprocessed form, from foreign adversaries.

A strong America cannot be dependent on imports from foreign adversaries for the critical minerals that are increasingly necessary to maintain our economic and military strength in the 21st century. Because of the national importance of reliable access to critical minerals, I signed Executive Order 13817 of December 20, 2017 (A Federal Strategy To Ensure Secure and Reliable Supplies of Critical Minerals), which required the Secretary of the Interior to identify critical minerals and made it the policy of the Federal Government "to reduce the Nation's vulnerability to disruptions in the supply of critical minerals." The critical minerals identified by the Secretary of the Interior are necessary inputs for the products our military, national infrastructure, and economy depend on the most. Our country needs critical minerals to make airplanes, computers, cell phones, electricity generation and transmission systems, and advanced electronics.

Though these minerals are indispensable to our country, we presently lack the capacity to produce them in processed form in the quantities we need. American producers depend on foreign countries to supply and process them. Whereas the United States recognizes the continued importance of cooperation on supply chain issues with international partners and allies, in many cases, the aggressive economic practices of certain non-market foreign producers of critical minerals have destroyed vital mining and manufacturing jobs in the United States. We must reduce our vulnerability to adverse foreign government action, natural disaster, or other supply disruptions. Our national security, foreign