

and initiatives to address racism, discrimination, and inequality.

As I continue to work on these initiatives, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this Resolution Recognizing Black Europeans and encourage them to review the statements and submissions from the Helsinki Commission's Black Europe Hearing at www.csce.gov.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2647, "The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010."

Title of Project: Advanced Autonomous Robotic Inspections for Aging Aircraft

Amount of Project: \$2,000,000

Account: Air Force, Operations & Maintenance

Project Recipient: Veracity Technology Solutions, LLC 2701 Liberty Parkway, Suite 311, Midwest City, OK 73001

At my request, \$2,000,000 was included in the FY10 NDAA, H.R. 2647, for Veracity Solutions in Midwest City, OK, to implement a fully automated autonomous robotic vehicle that has the capability to inspect for corrosion, as well as crack detection around fasteners for the KC-135 aircraft. Current inspection methods are both antiquated and time consuming, which has increased maintenance downtime and unnecessary refurbishment. A state-of-the-art nondestructive inspection system and training, which decreases maintenance costs and improves safety, will have the ability to detect corrosion and cracking on the KC-135 wing skins (and other aging aircraft). This system will allow for condition assessment of aircraft structures, as well as continuous assessment through the historical comparison of previous and present inspection results.

Specifically, the funding will be used for the technical personnel, facilities, and equipment required to develop an integrated system that includes a medical grade ultrasonic inspection system, an advanced impedance plane analysis eddy current unit, and an autonomous inspection vehicle that will allow engineers and depot crews to accurately and instantly identify defects and that are currently undetectable with traditional nondestructive inspection methods. The end product will provide a permanent record of the structural member which can be stored on the network for future comparison.

Title of Project: E-6B Strategic Communications Upgrade Block 1A (VLF-TX & HPTS)

Amount of Project: \$4,000,000

Account: Navy, Research, Development, Test & Evaluation

Project Recipient: Rockwell Collins, 400 Collins Road, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52498

At my request, \$4,000,000 was included in the FY10 NDAA, H.R. 2647, to provide modifications to the Navy's E-6B Mercury TACAMO. The E-6B Mercury TACAMO is a manned airborne communications relay platform designed to provide a survivable, reliable, enduring airborne Command and Control communications link between the President,

Secretary of Defense, and U.S. strategic and non-strategic forces, especially in the time of crisis or national emergency. In performing the TACAMO mission, the platform's primary purpose is the relay of messages via survivable Very Low Frequency transmission (VLF-TX).

This funding will provide for the modification of the VLF-TX, in addition to the High Power Transmit Set (HPTS) subsystem. The current VLF-TX is becoming unsupportable for the mission at hand. The money requested would provide for an encryption function which extends the development cycle for deployment of new equipment. In addition, it would be used to upgrade improvement in the HPTS system and improve the wire control system and operational availability.

These upgrades are critical to the E-6B execution of the TACAMO mission located at Tinker AFB and provide communications to the nation's strategic ballistic missile submarine force as a part of the Minimum Essential Emergency Communication Network (MEECN).

Title of Project: FIDO EXPLOSIVE DETECTOR

Amount of Project: \$7,000,000

Account: Army, Other Procurement

Line Number: 135

Project Recipient: ICx Nomadics, 1024 S. Innovation Way, Stillwater, OK 74074

At my request, \$7,000,000 was included in the FY10 NDAA, H.R. 2647, for the FIDO Explosive Detector, which will provide soldiers in combat theater the ability to identify and disable explosive devices and those who manufacture these devices by detecting explosive vapors and residues. Over 1,500 FIDO systems have been fielded in support of current military operations.

The small, lightweight, handheld devices provide the soldier the ability to screen persons, packages, cargo, equipment, vehicles, and buildings and report vapor detections in real time with audio and visual feedback to the operator. The small detection devices can be mounted onto a unit's organic Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) to provide additional force protection, while protecting the safety of the unit. Current FIDO systems have been successful in the field, and advances have been made to increase the ability of the sensor to detect additional substances in use today and into the future. This funding will accelerate the fielding of FIDO's in combat theater and providing explosive detection and protection to men and women in uniform.

Title of Project: Joint Fires and Effects Trainer System Enhancements

Amount of Project: \$2,500,000

Account: Army, Research, Development, Test & Evaluation

Project Recipient: Creative Technologies, 6255 West Sunset Boulevards, Suite 716, Los Angeles, CA

At my request, \$2,500,000 was included in the FY10 NDAA, H.R. 2647, to provide upgrades to the Joint Fires and Effects Trainer System (JFETS) located at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. The current immersive simulation training capability suffers from one significant drawback—the one-to-one instructor/student requirement. The funding provided for this project would increase the ability for this program to upgrade the voice recognition technology of JFETS and allow a single instructor to manage nine concurrent call for fire training sessions in the Open Terrain module simulta-

neously and improve efficiency by 800%. Additionally, the project will develop an interactive application to drill soldiers in the five essential elements of accurate predictive fires to prepare them before they train in the immersive environment and reinforce the training before the deploy.

Title of Project: T-9 Noise Suppressor Support

Amount of Project: \$5,100,000

Account: Air Force, Military Construction

Project Recipient: Tinker Air Force Base, 3001 Staff Drive, Tinker AFB, OK 73145

At my request, \$5,100,000 was included in the FY10 NDAA, H.R. 2647, to fund the construction of foundations and supporting facilities for two T-9 noise suppression systems at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma. This project would consist of the construction of reinforced concrete footings and slabs capable of supporting T-9 style engine testing facilities, a 20,000 gallon jet engine fuel storage and delivery system, utilities, access driveways, and a small office/restroom/break facility. Current engine test facilities are aging and unable to support the current test mission.

With the completion of the new Tinker Aerospace Complex (TAC) and the transfer of engine maintenance to this facility, construction of these test cells near the TAC will allow contiguous support of military jet engine repair, decrease maintenance downtime, and associated cost. This will allow the 76th Maintenance Wing and the 76th Propulsion Maintenance Group the capabilities to meet its mission of delivering engines on time and on cost and position Tinker AFB for increased mission capabilities in the future.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. MELISSA L. BEAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2047) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense; to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes:

Ms. BEAN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 2647, the National Defense Authorization Act and encourage its passage. Earlier this Congress I introduced H.R. 1267, "Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Act of 2009, which provides legislative authority to the Navy and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to jointly operate the new "Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center." In the other body, Senator DICK DURBIN has been working to include similar language in the Senate version of the National Defense Authorization Act.

After completion, the Lovell Federal Health Care Center will be the first health care facility in the nation to be operated jointly between the VA and the Navy saving taxpayers millions of dollars that would otherwise have been needed to rebuild or renovate the Navy's nearby hospital. Without this legislation, the Center will not be able to provide essential services to