

# Military, Law Enforcement News, and More...

## Opinion

### Cong. Mark Green's letter used as reason for 'as long as evil persists...for good people to defend themselves'

By Jim Shepherd  
The Outdoor Wire

"As long as evil persists, there will always be a need for good people to defend themselves and their loved ones."

That noteworthy quote is taken from a letter sent on behalf of eighty-eight members of Congress to Commerce Department Secretary Gina Raimondo and Commerce Under Secretary Alan F. Estevez regarding the Department's decision to "pause" the issuance of new export licenses involving "certain firearms, related components and ammunition."

The letter, originating from the office of Congressman Mark Green (7th District, TN) expresses concern over the "Broad mandates, no comment period, few details, and the massive caveat that BIS retains the authority to do virtually anything else it deems appropriate."

Actions, the letter points out,



Cong. Mark Green

"not characteristics of a democratic republic."

The letter continues to call to task the "inherent hypocrisy" of calling the "pause" then exempting Israel and Ukraine from the restrictions. "If," it says, "that it is true that guns are the cause of violence, as the President likes to say, then BIS would have included Ukraine and Israel in this pause."

"BIS did not," it concludes,

"proving the necessity of an armed citizenry to deter and repel tyranny."

In fact, Green wrote, "The surprise attacks against Israel should dispel any notion that BIS can justify or assess who needs firearms for defense."

"The need for a Second Amendment was not limited to the American Revolution," it continued, "nor the American Republic. Every person has a right to self-defense. Not only does BIS's pause on firearms export licenses leave people more vulnerable, but it will also push buyers to look elsewhere to meet consumer demand."

That's not exactly the job of the Commerce Department. Nor is it the job of the Commerce Department to take actions that will potentially affect thousands of Americans whose jobs are tied to the very business the BIS division has "paused."

Those, however, are only part of the reasons the eighty-eight members of Congress are perturbed. They listed nine specific

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concerns they wanted answered by Secretary Raimondo and BIS head Under Secretary Estevez.

The points? The usuals in any investigation:

- the specific concerns that led to the "pause"
- Did anyone in Congress get advance notice? If so, whom?
- Why is the "pause" necessary for the duration of their "assessment"?
- Did Commerce/BIS interface with stakeholders?
- Did Commerce/BIS interface with "advocacy organizations" prior to the decision?
- Have there been any meetings with stakeholders since the

"pause"?

•At the end of 90 days, will there be advance notice to temporary or permanent changes? And will those changes be submitted to Congress for review?

•Did they "coordinate or collaborate" with, or involve in any way, the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention on the decision? If so, they wrote "please describe in detail."

•Please describe "in detail" why exports to Ukraine and Israel are necessary, while exports to Taiwan are not.

The letter then "respectfully" asked for answers to the questions of Congress by November 13, 2021. That was...yesterday. And as of 5p.m. Eastern time on Monday, November 13, 2023, there was no response from the Commerce Department.

If/when Secretary Raimondo responds to the request for information, we'll let you know.

In the meantime, we'll keep you posted.



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### For the Record...

### Sen. Blackburn honors fallen Fort Campbell soldiers in U.S. Senate



Sen. Marsha Blackburn

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) delivered the following remarks on the U.S. Senate floor in honor of the 5 fallen soldiers of Fort Campbell's 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (SOAR):

"On November 10, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment lost 5 soldiers when their helicopter crashed during a training flight over the Mediterranean Sea.

Their names are:

**Chief Warrant Officer 3 Stephen R. Dwyer**, of Clarksville, Tennessee;

**Chief Warrant Officer 2 Shane M. Barnes**, of Sacramento, California;

**Staff Sgt. Tanner W. Grone**, of Gorham, New Hampshire;

**Sgt. Andrew P. Southard**, of Apache Junction, Arizona;

and **Sgt. Cade M. Wolfe**, of Mankato, Minnesota.

In honor of the brave Night Stalkers of First Battalion, Charlie Company, I want to recite a few portions of the Night Stalker Creed for the Record.

'Service in the 160th is a calling only a few will answer for the mission is constantly demanding and hard. And when the impossible has been accomplished the only reward is another mission that no one else will try. I serve with the memory and pride of those who have gone before me for they loved to fight, fought to

*Their motto is "Night Stalkers Don't Quit!" and I would encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting them as they bring the spirit of those words to bear against our enemies around the globe."*

win and would rather die than quit.'

On behalf of all Tennesseans, I want to offer my prayers and support to these soldiers' families, and to the brave men and women of the 160th.

Their motto is "Night Stalkers Don't Quit!" and I would encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting them as they bring the spirit of those words to bear against our enemies around the globe."

### Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders Honors Veterans...



Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders is shown here being greeted by enthusiastic veterans in the Arkansas State Veterans Home in Fayetteville on Friday, November 10. This was one of a number of events and stops the Governor made in honor of Veterans Day officially celebrated this year on Saturday, November 11. (Photo credit: Randall Lee)

### American Outdoor Brands, Inc. honors veterans and freedom

COLUMBIA, Mo. – American Outdoor Brands, Inc., (AOB), an industry leading provider of products and accessories for outdoor enthusiasts, last week honored its employees who served to protect our American freedoms. The company recognizes the positive impact its employees have on the success of its business and employs individuals from various backgrounds, including American veterans. Together, AOB veterans

represent the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, and the U.S. Navy, and the company formally recognized their contributions, and the contributions that all veterans provided, to preserve the freedoms that we enjoy daily. To honor these individuals, each AOB Veteran received a custom shirt, hat, and gift card to enjoy a meal with a friend or family member. The group was met by

Brian Murphy, AOB President and CEO, and members of the executive leadership team, to convey the company's gratitude for their service. Murphy, said, "We enjoy tremendous freedoms in the U.S., including the ability to operate and grow companies like American Outdoor Brands, because of the generous gift of

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