

KEN CALVERT
42ND DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA



UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

RANKING REPUBLICAN
DEFENSE

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

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March 24, 2022

The Honorable Lloyd Austin
U.S. Department of Defense
1300 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1300

General Mark Milley
Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
9999 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20318-9999

Dear Secretary Austin and General Milley:

With the Omnibus Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2022 now law, I am writing to ensure that the expectation of immediate support to Ukraine is fulfilled. With the strong support of Congress, the Administration has utilized drawdown authority for Ukraine five times in just the last six months. Combined with \$200 million authorized on March 12, 2022, the total value of equipment for Ukraine reached \$1 billion in the last week alone. Under the Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, another \$1.7 billion in drawdown authority remains available to be expended from Department inventories in order to support their sovereignty and territorial integrity.

I expect some of these funds to provide Stinger short-range air defense missiles and launch units, Javelin portable anti-tank missile systems, and Switchblade 600 anti-armor miniature loitering munitions to Ukrainian forces. The committee notes the apparent absence of a Department of Defense plan to meet munition replenishment requirements for our U.S. stocks of these critical systems and those of other contributing allies and partners. As we have heard from neighboring Baltic neighbors, this is a matter of the highest urgency.

Therefore, I strongly urge the Department of Defense to develop a plan to meet immediate munition replenishment requirements, prioritize the acceleration of industrial base capacity for these munitions and other urgent needs, and to develop a long-term plan for low-cost, exportable solutions that modernize or replace current systems and increase resistance capabilities for Ukraine and its neighbors. This includes accelerated procurement of the next generation Javelin command launch units for U.S. and partner forces as well as missile procurements at rates that meet COCOM requirements. Finally, I respectfully request to be consulted early and often as to any possible reprogramming requests as this conflict continues.

The resiliency of the Ukrainian people paired with these critical weapon systems has demonstrated to the world that free and sovereign nations can stand up to those seeking to dismantle the rules based international order. We must all stand on the side of freedom, human rights, and national sovereignty. I appreciate your prompt response to this important matter and look forward to engaging with you on this topic as we consider the President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2023.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Calvert", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

KEN CALVERT
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense