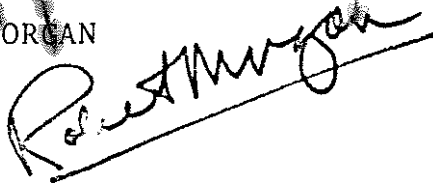


STATEMENT BY SENATOR ROBERT MORGAN
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1977



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert Morgan", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is positioned to the right of the typed name and date.

Mr. Chairman:

I fully support the Armed Services Committee action on this supplemental authorization under S. 1863.

By upgrading and continuing the use of the B-52 force both as a penetrating and cruise missile carrier bomber, by initiating a prototype development program on the FB-111H as a new penetrator and by investing in development of the Air Launched Cruise Missile we have taken the best practical decision.

This mixed force enormously complicates the Soviet defense problems in doctrine, investment and military capability.

The capabilities of the B-52 as a weapons carrier are well known and respected. By upgrading its protective and navigational systems and by fitting it to carry the cruise missile it becomes

even more formidable.

To retain our long-term options to enhance the penetrating component of our strategic bomber force, we will have the FB-111H program. This is a prototype development program to "stretch" the airframes of two existing FB-111A aircraft and integrate into them the General Electric F-101 engines developed for the B-1, which the President seems determined not to build.

The \$20 million recommended by the Committee will permit the Air Force to perform electronic countermeasures trade studies, subsystem and structural design definition, structural component and material tests, wind tunnel tests, develop computer simulations for the crew module and develop source selection criteria and specifications.

With the improved capability and survivability of the B-52 as

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both a penetrator, stand-off platform and in the dual roles; with the numerical, cost and operational advantages of the cruise missile and with the potential of the FB-111H as a new penetrator, we commend to you the best possible cost - effective contribution to the strategic triad.