August 4, 2022

The Honorable Lloyd J. Austin III
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Secretary Austin,

I’ve heard reliable reports that this week’s routine test launch of a Minuteman III missile was delayed or canceled. If accurate, this would be the second such termination since February, when Russia invaded Ukraine.

Are these reports accurate? If so, how long does the Administration intend to allow Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping to dictate our missile testing schedule?

Sincerely,

TOM COTTON
United States Senate

cc: Mr. Jake Sullivan, National Security Advisor
    General Mark Milley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff