Mr. Royce

Mr. ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Yes, very early, very early this morning over a half-dozen missiles

were fired, were tested by Iran, as we have discussed. And in

the meantime, of course, they very aggressively pursue this intercontinental

missile capability. We know that North Korea has delivered

missiles to them. And we also know that North Korea

helped one state sponsor of terrorism, that is Syria, develop a nu25

clear program while helping Iran develop a delivery system. And

I think North Korea is likely to be further involved in the Middle

East in nefarious ways despite diplomatic carrots being thrown its

way. But I think the fact that during the negotiations it was in the

process of developing that program for Syria tells us a lot about the

likelihood.

Now, I know more Iranian entities and individuals were sanctioned

yesterday, but more can be done to raise the cost to Iran of

its activities at home, of its activities around the world, of its network,

and especially more could be done with respect to that troubled

economy. And so one of the questions I was going to ask—you

know, it took a long, long time to get the European Union finally

to sanction Bank Melli, which is the largest commercial bank over

there. With this finally done, is there a way to get our European

partners engaged in this? Because for years, you know, we have

not been in a position where somebody else could go in and say,

‘‘Here is the step we took, you should, too,’’ to other world powers.

It was us pressing on this. You know, Dubai, frankly, comes to

mind because for too long it was easy for Dubai to respond, you

know, We treat Iranian banks the way London treats Iranian

banks. Well, that is no longer true now with this move. So how can

we get our European partners to move decisively here and begin

to establish an international effort?

Mr. ROYCE. And what would that pressure point be, for example,

on Dubai if our allies were to try to help us?

Mr. ROYCE. We don’t have a lot of time. The other focal point

should be China, because China has taken a very shortsighted view

on this. You know, the possibility of a nuclear program in Iran,

that is going to create an arms race that is going to impact China.

And certainly there is the fact that Islamists might get their hands

on nuclear material once this arms race is under way.

So are there any signs that China is beginning to think about

these things long term and strategically? Is there any effort on

Radio Free Asia to get these ideas up and out and debated in

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China to create a pressure point there for some consideration on

action?

Mr. ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.