Thank you, Madam Secretary; and I personally

think that you have added a lot of flare to the office of Secretary

of State. You have represented your gender very well. You have a

lot more backbone than a lot of men in government politics, and

I admire you for that.

Three quick questions. A year or two ago, we were getting a lot

of information about all of the bad things that were going on in

Russia, and a lot of things were true. It has quieted down. Is that

because Putin is controlling the press more so—or are things really

getting better? If you can think about those and answer that line

of question. Are things really getting better in Russia, or is it that

he is controlling the outflow?

Second, it appears that the Russia military is about to go

through a period of significant downsizing, if what Putin said is

correct. There is an indication that for financial reasons he will

have to downsize his strategic capability, ICBMs specifically. Do

you think that he really is going to do this, or is this public propaganda

that he is putting out?

The third area, has at any time our government provided any intelligence

information to the Russian military that has aided them

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in carrying out their mission in Chechnya—like satellite information,

intercepted messages of phone conversations, telephone conversations?

Thank you, Madam Secretary.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.