Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

First, let me just say to Mr. Conyers, thank you very much for

being here and for your leadership. I have joined you for the last

couple of years in signing the letter to the Administration asking

for the de-linking of the military and the economic sanctions. Certainly

for me, we understand who Saddam Hussein is.

We also understand that there are 5,000 children a month dying.

It is a calculated risk because, like you say, who knows what? We

can only anticipate that less people would die, less children would

die, if economic sanctions were lifted. I think it is worth the risk,

because in no way should our country be even in part allowing

these numbers to die before us. It is just an immoral position, I

think, to take.

Let me just ask you, in terms of what is going on in Iraq with

regard to the military buildup, if we were to lift economic sanctions—

let me put it another way. From your point of view, does

Saddam Hussein or does the international community bear the responsibility

for the deaths of these children in Iraq? Or do you believe

that is a question that cannot be answered, that we just have

to move forward to try to stop it?