Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

First of all, I would like to compliment you on your presentation

here today. It was comprehensive. I learned a lot. The questions

that have been asked and the answers here have been answered

directly. I appreciate the professionalism that you have all shown.

With that said, let me know that we do not have a cat in the bag.

What we have got is a rabid dog in the bag. If you let the cat out

of the bag, it may or may not hurt you.

Saddam Hussein is an animal that could, not only is hurting his

own people, but would hurt Americans if he can get the chance to

do so. We cannot afford to let him out of the bag. Let me note that

when we keep talking about the effects of our policies and the effects

of what is going on, on the children of Iraq, we all sympathize

with innocent people.

Mr. Welch, I think you adequately covered the fact that the fault

of the suffering of those poor children and the civilians in Iraq is

not the fault of the people of the United States, but the fault of

Saddam Hussein himself. I think you said it quite well. I think

that the statistics that you have shown, shows that we are permitting

them to have what is necessary to feed those children. He is

choosing instead to spend that money on weapons and to screw his

own people. That is terrible.

We should never have a hearing on Iraq unless we recognize, Mr.

Chairman, that Saddam Hussein, Saddam insane, Saddam Hussein,

is still holding hundreds of Kuwaiti prisoners. There are hundreds

of people that have been taken from Kuwait.

As a proportion of their population, it is a monstrous crime

against the people of Kuwait. Anything we do to try to stop to

change this situation in that part of the world has to take into consideration

these prisoners that we believe Saddam Hussein is still

holding. I must ask, is there some evidence that Saddam Hussein

is still holding many of these Kuwaiti prisoners alive, or has he

murdered all of them, too?

Which again underscores the nature of this

regime; holding Kuwaiti prisoners. He refuses to give any type of

humanitarian report to their families. I would call on Saddam Hussein

today, and anybody who is advocating that we end this embargo,

to make a call on Saddam Hussein before anything happens to

make sure we have an accounting of those prisoners.

Second, I agree that supporting the resistance does not seem to

have worked. I do not think this Administration has taken seriously

the move by Congress to provide resources for Kuwaiti resistance,

not as seriously as it should have been taken. However, I

would say that before we can be taken seriously, Mr. Chairman, I

believe that the Congress, and I would call on Congress, and I may

offer this resolution myself, to provide legislation that will end the

prohibition on the assassination of foreign leaders in relationship

to Saddam Hussein.

Saddam Hussein is a rabid dog who is murdering his own people,

who is a threat to millions of other people’s lives, and we should

repeal that prohibition in relationship to people like Saddam Hussein,

and Saddam Hussein specifically. Perhaps if Congress would

do that, the $100 million we provided for the overthrow of Saddam

Hussein would be taken seriously. After all, what was that $100

million for? It was to replace Saddam Hussein.

We think that they are going to carry him out, let him go to some

island, and live a life of luxury for the rest of his life? Is that what

the resistance would have done in our view? No. It would have

military confrontation, and hopefully Saddam Hussein would have

lost it. With that said, I commend again the job that you have been

doing. I have been more angry than most.

I backed the Chairman in the Chairman’s resolution that passed

before the House yesterday, in asking the Administration to use

this leverage to bring down oil prices. I believe Saudi Arabia and

Kuwait, by being involved in that price fixing conspiracy, have

shaken the faith that many of us had in that friendship. I commend

the President. I commend the Chairman for the leadership

he has provided in that. But we should never forget at the same

time that there is a severe challenge in that region, and that is

why Saudi Arabia and Kuwait should make sure they keep our

friendship and loyalty. Thank you very much.