Thank you very much for your forbearance

with the House schedule. And with that, we are ready to proceed.

And I would like to introduce our witnesses and experts.

First I welcome back David Albright, president of the Institute

for Science and International Security here in Washington, DC. He

is a renowned expert on nuclear proliferation issues, and is especially

adept at looking into secret nuclear programs of countries

like Iran and North Korea.

Next I welcome back Matt Levitt, senior fellow and director of

the Washington Institute’s Stein Program on Terrorism, Intelligence,

and Policy. From 2005 to early 2007, Dr. Levitt served as

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis at the

United States Department of the Treasury.

Daniel Byman is associate professor and director of the Security

Studies Program and the Center for Peace and Security Studies at

Georgetown University’s Edmund Walsh School of Foreign Service.

He is also a senior fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy

at the Brookings Institution.

We also welcome back Ilan Berman. Ilan is vice president for policy

at the American Foreign Policy Council in Washington, DC.

And Mr. Levitt, if you would care to begin.