Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ambassador, we have been watching television in the last

couple of days, and we have seen Mr. Chernomyrdin—I never can

pronounce those Russian names.

Yes. Come back from China and say that they and

the Chinese are of one mind that the United States and the NATO

allies should stop the bombing and pull out of Kosovo. Now, with

the upheaval that is taking place with Mr. Yeltsin firing Mr.

Primakov and other members of the Cabinet, one wonders, if there

might be a destabling influence in Russia that could lead to open

hostilities. In other words, the Russians have been long-time allies

of the Serbs. They told us and the Chinese have said you need to

stop bombing and get out of there. They put a Russian trawler out

there in the sea for intelligence purposes, we understand. Now you

have this upheaval there in the hierarchy in Russia. I just would

like to have your opinion as to whether or not you think this could

lead to some direct or more involvement by Russia and possibly

China in the Kosovo issue if we don’t adhere to their wishes.

I understand and I know that Yeltsin is concerned

about it, but they are trying to impeach him right now. He has just

fired his foreign minister and other members of the cabinet. You

have got some real hard liners in the Duma over there, and some

of those hard liners, or many of those hard liners, are former Communist

Party members who are——

Current Communist Party members, who are very

supportive of Milosevic, and they don’t want us in there; and I just

wondered if we had any intelligence information or information

through the State Department that would lead one to believe that

we might have a problem with Russia and maybe even China, if

something isn’t done to bring about a halt to the problem in

Kosovo.

So your position is that Yeltsin’s——

Unless they impeach him.

Now, let us talk about one other subject, quickly before

my time runs out. Have you or other top officials of this Administration

ever been presented with credible reports or evidence

that top Russian officials have personally engaged in activities that

would be considered corrupt by our standards? I didn’t know that

was a funny question, but that is OK.

I have been told that there was a report that State

Department had seen or had been involved in that showed that

there was corruption by top officials in the Russian Government,

and it was not made available or public.