Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Welcome, Mr. Secretary. I have enjoyed, in the past, interacting

with you given sort of the focus that you have in trying to solve

difficult problems and intellectual challenges. I think none probably

that confront you is any more onerous than what you are

going to be talking through today.

I would hope—I have already extended my apologies for jumping

across to a hearing. I will be back. But I would like to explore with

you ways that you think that Congress could have a more focused

presence in this troubled area. A number of my colleagues have

been there. I have entertained this notion that we might be able

to have a sustained series of efforts so that every Member of Congress

who wishes over the course of the next year and a half, could

actually spend some time on the ground, and that could be done

on an ongoing basis. So that, if there were a series of visits—and

hopefully, in some cases, repeat visits—that it might give some additional

attention, some leverage, and we would be willing to work

in a cooperative fashion. I would like to explore that a little bit further

with you.