Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman, I would like to defer my 1

minute to the gentlelady from Texas. She has a very important

hearing pending that she has to chair. So I exchanged her time

with mine.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, thank you, and, very briefly,

I want to recommend to my colleagues a speech that was given by

President Medvedev when he was in Berlin some months ago, and

I think it is most profound, in my humble opinion, something that

we really need to examine very closely about the intent and the

wishes of the leaders of Russia to reach out, not only to deal with

the European Union but also with our own country.

I am also very curious how easily we can find $1 billion to provide

for the needs of Georgia. I would be very curious to see how

we are going to come up with this $1 billion that the administration

is asking for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Did the gentleman want 10 seconds to finish?

I would be more than happy to yield 30 seconds

of my time.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know the Secretary

wanted to respond to my good friend’s statement, but, as has

been said earlier, this is a very complex situation, and, claiming ignorance

myself, I just wanted to know, Mr. Secretary, I looked

through all of the briefing materials and I do not seem to have

even the population of Georgia on the briefing statements. What is

the total population? I understand there are at least about seven

or eight ethnic groups that make up the country of Georgia. Am I

correct?

Am I also correct to say that, among those,

there are Russian citizens living in Georgia?

Mr. Delahunt had stated earlier that you

did advocate strongly to our Georgian leaders not to take up military

action, but they went ahead and disregarded your admonition,

advice. Can you explain why they went ahead and took up military

action?

Okay. Mr. Secretary, I have to cut you off

because I have got a limited time.

Would you say it would be accurate to say

that our basic foreign policy toward Eastern Europe is to bring

these former Soviet satellite countries under the umbrella of the

United States-European Union sphere of influence?

As they qualify.

I had indicated earlier about the speech

that President Medvedev gave, which I thought was a very historical

event, that was hardly covered here in the United States, but

all of the foreign media covered it quite well, and I thought——

Yes, and I thought the President’s speech

there in Berlin was very historical, to the extent that he raised one

fundamental question: What is really the purpose of having NATO

to continue its existence since the Cold War is over? Can you respond

to that?

Has Russia been invited to join NATO?

Has Turkey been invited to join NATO?

Well, during the Cold War, but I understand—

are they still having problems in being totally, fully admitted?

The European Union. I am sorry.

You had indicated—I have got 40 seconds

left—that the $1 billion that the administration is requesting is

just strictly for humanitarian purposes and not to provide military

arms to Georgia.

We have decided to build a defense missile

system right in the middle of nearby Russia. Can you tell me exactly

how we should justify having a missile base supposedly to

look at Iran? If I were a Russian, I would feel very uncomfortable,

knowing that these missiles could be pointed at us rather than the

Iranians.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr.

Secretary.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I do want

to thank both gentlemen for being so patient. They have been sitting

here all afternoon and listening to all of the questions and the

dialogue with Secretary Fried. I do have a couple of questions that

I just wanted to get your opinions on.

I noticed that the People’s Republic of China and members of the

Shanghai Agreement have taken the position of not supporting

Russia in this recent aggression against Georgia. Does that give a

positive indication, in terms of it seems that even its closest allies

being in that region, that this did not come out very positive for

Russia? Can you give a comment on that, either of you?

Dr. Kagan?

Well, one thing that I wanted just to ask

both of you gentlemen, taken collectively, or the summation of the

whole period since the collapse of the former Soviet Union and having

these states now, do you think that maybe our country could

have done a better job in working with the new Russia? Because

it seems that we are treating Russia, from the very beginning, like,

really, not part of the club, so to speak. We have not invited them

to join NATO, even though we are making these conditions, preconditions,

even before they get to another level, and I am just

wondering maybe we may have missed the ball somewhere along

the line because I kind of like to think that they really are trying

to reach out.

I mentioned President Medvedev’s speech in Berlin, which I

thought was very profound. It seemed to me that he really wants

to reach out and not be treated like it was another enemy since the

Cold War. I may be wrong, but my general observation is that we

build a missile defense, supposedly for defense purposes, in Czech

Republic. We somehow are not communicating, and maybe it is because

I do not speak Russian, but I just wanted to ask your opinions,

gentlemen.

Do you think that maybe our country could have done a better

job in really bringing Russia into the mainstream of the world?

After all, they do have a democracy, but, still, they are building on it.

I definitely will look at the Putin speech.

Gentlemen?

Dr. McFaul?

I look forward to reading the book.

Thank you.