He is not giving up his time, Mr. Chairman.

I want to thank him for his wonderful kindness, the distinguished

gentleman from American Samoa. It is that we are switching time.

But, in any event, let me thank the chairman and the ranking

member for this crucial hearing. The mutuality of the world’s existence

is a difficult challenge. I welcome the fact that I live in a

country that prides itself on promoting democracy, supporting

those who are fighting for democracy, and, for that, I certainly salute

the Georgians for the many, many leaps of success that they

have accomplished. But, at the same time, I want us to find a balanced

policy. I want the United States to be an honest broker with

integrity that forces democracy and recognizes its interests.

Therefore, as we have just seen, the announcement of the Secure

America Report that came out today that says that the United

States is subjected, or may be subjected, to a biological or nuclear

terrorist attack, then we realize that our friends in Russia are as

important as our friends in Georgia.

We must find a balance. We can sit here and accuse. Yes, I believe

that Georgia was aggressive. At the same time, Russia is

huge and growing. Let us find a way to create peace and opportunity.

I do believe that the administration’s announcement of a $1 billion

repair is over the top, and I hope Congress will intervene and

find a balance between Russia and Georgia. I yield back.

We will pick your choices, which would be the

last, but let me just say, the spirited nature of this hearing has

rocked the halls of Congress. Let me apologize to the witnesses. I

was chairing another committee on the difficulty of our watch lists

and, therefore, was delayed.

But I do want to just inquire of the chairman, because I started

out with my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, I wanted to inquire

of you, there has been a public representation of $1 billion to Georgia.

Is that something that we have conceded to? Will that come

before our committee? I appreciate the oversight of this hearing.

What will be the next step, as it relates to the proposal or recommendation

of a $1 billion humanitarian relief?

And I yield to the distinguished chairman.

Reclaiming my time, I thank the chairman for

that very artful and important explanation. I want to go back to

my original comments, and I am going to yield to both of our esteemed

scholars.

I struck the chord of balance. I hear the chairman striking the

chord of balance. Hearing $1 billion, I just came out of a hearing,

since I have been in many today, that dealt with the loss of 13,000

jobs in Ohio because of a monopolistic situation between package

delivery companies.

A billion dollars to Georgia strikes me as potentially insulting,

and I am, obviously, not going to be overwhelmed by being guided

by someone else’s hurt feelings, it happens to be Russia. But I do

believe it is important to the American people that we have a balance

in our foreign policy.

There are some skepticism and some curious actions that Georgia

can be cited for as to why they thought it necessary to move

as they did.

The other question becomes, what is NATO’s involvement? So it

does not look as if the United States, even with humanitarian aid

or giving them construction aid, is, again, making a statement of

‘‘It is us against you.’’

My question to you, the issue of balance and how we fair when

we can, at least, show balance so that even if Russia becomes

smug, they cannot say, ‘‘You know what? The United States does

not have a fair assessment of our concerns.’’

Secondly, where is NATO on this? When I say ‘‘NATO,’’ let me

say the European Union as well, under its new President. Why

can’t they be in front with the aid, which, again, is a balance, because

we support the EU, we support NATO, so that we can strike

the balance that we want between Georgia and Russia? Because I

think it would be the same thing if the United States—say we were

the smaller country, and we decided to show ourselves off and decided

to shoot at one of the Caribbean countries, who might, let us

say, in my metaphor, be the bigger country?

Anybody shooting at anyone gets themselves in a lot of trouble.

So how can we strike that balance? I think $1 billion is going overboard,

and your assessment on that, and that goes to both Dr.

McFaul and Dr. Kagan.

But if we know that, Dr. Kagan, we know the

game they are playing—heighten the Cold War in the 21st century—

how do we get balance? We do not have to listen to their

trash talk. Trash talk does not bother me.

You are probably right.

Dr. McFaul, I want to clarify. I think Dr.

Kagan is right. I think we can express ourselves such that we can

refute trash talk, and we probably can do a one-upmanship.

I do not particularly find Russia to be the clean-hand proponent

here, but I got a little choked up when Dr. Kagan said ‘‘military

presence.’’ But how can we strike the balance so that Russia is not

overbearing, if that is something you can respond to, but yet show

our friendship to Georgia? And what about EU and NATO collaboration

and putting them out front?

There are big bucks we get paid. That is right.

And give him the credibility of the Russian

Constitution in dealing with him in these negotiations, which

would include how NATO should deal with him, how the EU

should deal with him.

I think we can get out of this heap that we are in, and I think

you have made a very important point, Mr. Chairman, I just want

to reemphasize on the record. All of the work that has been done

by the dissolution of the Soviet Union and this new look, no matter

how much pride Russia seems to have, can dissipate, be destroyed,

be lost, if we continue to have tender skin.

I would like to see us move to this balance, and I hope, Mr.

Chairman, we can pursue this legislatively, and I thank the chairman

for yielding to me, and I thank the witnesses for the answers

to my questions. I yield back.

Unnecessary.

No.

Next week.