Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you to

you and Senator Risch for holding the hearing.

Mr. Feltman, I wanted to begin by commenting on your points

about Ambassador Ford and the great work that he has done in

Syria and commend him for that. I know all of us very much appreciate

his courage and his working with the opposition figures and

certainly hope he will be back there very soon.

Can you talk about the current relationship between Iran and

Syria and how Iran is playing into what is going on there right

now? Are they supporting Assad and to what extent? And how does

the violence in Syria affect their view of what is going on?

And do we have any information about—is

there any information about how the Iranian people feel about

their government’s support for Assad and what is happening there?

That does make sense. And given the Arab

League’s effort to try and reduce the violence in Syria, is there any

belief that if the violence continues that the Arab League will actually

take any direct action? Will they sanction Assad and the

regime? Is there any further effort that we think they might undertake?

And to follow along with respect to Turkey—

Mr. Bronin, in about 40 seconds that I have left—Turkey obviously

has made some strong statements condemning Assad and the violence

in Syria. Are they prepared to undertake any sanctions

against Assad, economic sanctions or others?

Are we already engaging with Turkey to encourage

them?

Thank you.