Senator Webb.

Thank you, Senator Webb.

As he said, we had a vote go off at 11:31. So it is a 15-minute

vote, but I think we will be able to finish. I just have a few questions

to be able to finish up here and release you and adjourn the

hearing, unless we have other Senators come in.

There are reports that Saudi Arabia and Qatar may be planning

to arm the rebels in Syria or may have already begun to arm the

rebels. In addition, it has been reported that religious support for

arming the rebels has increased in Saudi Arabia.

What is the position of the United States with regard to the possibility

that Saudi Arabia or other Arab countries are arming the

rebels and are we communicating what our position is on arming

the rebels? And could that lead to the empowerment of Hamas and

al- Qaeda as a result?

I realize and I apologize. I was in the chair presiding over the

Senate. Some of this may be ground that you have gone over, but

if you could answer that, that would be great.

Ambassador, if you have any thoughts on that.

Thank you for those answers.

The other issue—and it may have been touched on a bit—is this

whole issue of weapons of mass destruction and what is happening

in Syria. If and when the Assad regime falls, are we considering

and making plans regarding how to account for those weapons, how

to ensure they not fall into the hands of terrorist organizations

such as al-Qaeda? Is this an issue that is being discussed among

the allies and people in the region that are concerned?

Great, thank you.

Ambassador, do you have any other thoughts on that issue?

Well, I know you do. You know, when I get home

to New Mexico, a lot of people—you realize there is a lot of concern

about kind of the brutal massacre of the Syrian people by its government

when really this started out as a peaceful protest and

then evolved into what we are seeing today.

So all of us, I think, on the committee very much appreciate Senator

Kerry holding the hearing. We very much appreciate both of

you being here.

We are going to keep the record open until the end of the week.

There may be additional submissions and you may or may not get

additional questions as was indicated earlier.

But thank you very much for your service.

And with no additional questioners here, we would adjourn the

hearing.