Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

There was an article which appeared in, I believe, National Review

recently. It was entitled, ‘‘The Silent Exodus of Syria’s Christians.’’

And it started out 2 million or so, and it’s to some degree

similar to Iraq when there was the war taking place there. Christians

were being targeted, murder, kidnapping, rape, you name it,

all kinds of horrific things happening. And, of course, there’s been

a relationship to some degree between the regime and some in the

Christian community, as well, so that clearly exists, and is somewhat

of a complicating factor, as well.

There are particular threat from Islamic groups, and my question

would be what has the administration been doing about that, what

should we be doing? One quote in the article was, ‘‘The ethno religious

cleansing taking place could soon see Syria emptied of Christians,’’

for example. And, apparently, it hasn’t been getting a tremendous

amount of coverage in the media overall compared to a

lot of other things. Ms. Lindborg, would you want to touch on that

particular issue?

Thank you. Either one of the other witnesses want

to touch on this? Ambassador?

Thank you. In the short time I have left, if you

could just, Mr. Ambassador, touch on the chemical weapons issues.

The administration’s called it a red line, and there have been reports,

you know, as recently in the last 24 hours about what’s actually

happening on the ground, whether they have been used,

whether they will be used. If you could just talk about what the

administration is doing to prevent the transfer of these weapons to

groups like Hezbollah, and others? Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman