Secretary Burns, thank you for your

patience. Thank you for your service to our country.

As the United States deals with Iran on various issues—its position

on Iraq, its border issues, its financing of terrorist organizations,

such as Hezbollah, or its nuclear program, our success is dependent

upon the effectiveness of our sanctions, our international

diplomatic efforts, and our ability to secure the cooperation of other

nations, and on Iran believing that we can, in fact, isolate their

policies.

What nations would you identify as critical to this effort? Where

do we need to work to improve cooperation in order to have effective

policies with regard to Iran?

Well, let me start with Russia and China, the

first two countries that you mentioned. We have so many issues

with those two countries today, well beyond just Iran. My question

is: Is it a high enough priority within the administration to elevate

the issue of Iran with Russia and with China, that it gets the attention

it needs? Because I agree with you that those two countries

are absolutely essential to have effective diplomatic policies in regard

to Iran. So, I understand that there are multiple issues that

are important. But clearly this is one that needs to be a priority.

Is it a priority?

I concur with Senator Voinovich’s assessment of

the Saudis’ and your comments. I also agree with your position on

Israel. Is there something specifically more that we need in regard

to our relationship with Israel, as it relates to Iran?

Well, I agree with you. The statements of the

Iranian leadership in regard to Israel—and, by the way, in regard

to the United States—are quite frightening, and we need to take

them very, very seriously.

I come back to the point that you have raised over and over

again: It’s absolutely critical that we get international support, and

that Iran understands that it will be isolated if it does not move

forward in a constructive way in regards to the borders or Iraq or

dealing with—supporting terrorism or their nuclear program.

Senator Voinovich, anything further?

We will keep the record open for 3 business

days for any additional statements and questions.

And, once again, Mr. Secretary, Mr. Ambassador, I want to

thank you very much, not only for your appearance here today, but

for your extraordinarily record of public service to our country.

Thank you very much.

The hearing will stand adjourned.