Ambassador Butler, I would like to thank

you for appearing before the committee, and I appreciate how tireless

you have been in your efforts to disarm Iraq and your extraordinary

service to the international community. I have a couple of

questions, trying to stay within my time limit.

You have focused, of course, on the whole question of what is

going on with Iraq’s efforts to build long-range missiles and weapons

of mass destruction, and I think about the worldwide effort to

limit the proliferation of these weapons. What importance do you

attach to various nonproliferation treaties and what realistic prospects

do you see that these regimes would be useful?

I thought I would build on that point that

you made.

Let me ask you a certain question. We have

disagreements in the committee on the Comprehensive Test Ban

Treaty. I think it is one of the reasons we need to support it. But

saving that for another time, I want to—I want to try and raise a

different question with you, and maybe you have covered this already.

UNICEF estimates that, and I am reading this, more than

500,000 kids under age 5 have died from lack of access—I think

this is since 1991—to food, medicine, and safe drinking water.

Now, they point out to me, they are clear that while Saddam Hussein’s

regime is responsible for some of these problems facing Iraq

civilians, that the sanctions are also responsible for some of these

problems, and the administration’s recent response to the UNICEF

report and to the State Department’s statements explaining the report,

what they do is they—the administration has said, look, the

sanctions, we do not believe sanctions are responsible for any part

of this humanitarian crisis.

I want to ask you this question. How do you see the balance between

the regime’s responsibility, I mean, I think we all know that

Saddam Hussein is a very cruel man, but also the role of sanctions?

And I know that this has not been your primary—or maybe

I can ask you this as a diplomat in residence at the Council of Foreign

Affairs, your analysis or evaluation of the sanctions.

I know that.

Thank you very much. It was very powerful.