Mr. Chairman, no. Just, I am ready to participate

in the questioning. I thank you.

Mr. Chairman, I am particularly interested in

Korea. On the Easter break I went with Senator Shelby to a number

of countries, including Korea, and I thank you for the opportunity

of this hearing. I am interested to know, in your view, how

should the United States respond to the President of South Korea’s

desire to negotiate a North-South peace agreement?

And that has been a given, and you are talking

about your concern about the coolness as a result primarily of the

recent visit of President Kim here with President Bush?

Let me ask you this, any of you. There was

some reaction in the South Korean press to President Kim’s continuing

initiatives as if they were not being received or reciprocated

by the North Korean leadership. Give me your comments on that.

That is true with regard to the reaction of the

press, but in your opinion is, in fact, that is true? President Kim

does not think so.

No. I am talking about what you think about

his initiatives to the North, and if they are being reciprocated.

So you would take the cynical view, as opposed

to the optimistic view of President Kim?

Mr. Chairman, may we get the Doctor’s response?

You know, when I was growing up, Mr. Chairman,

I was taught that partisan politics stopped at the water’s

edge, and I think we have two different points of view that are represented

here today that reflect whether or not this administration

did this or that, but the title of your hearing today is, where do

we go from here, and so as a new member on this committee, I

would like to further explore, given the riveting testimony of the

Doctor—one of my closest friends up here is Congressman Tony

Hall, who has told me what he has seen in North Korea, and how

pervasive the starvation is there.

We have got a problem. We want to help. The Doctor has shared

some testimony that he does not think all that food is getting

there, so where do we go from here?

Doctor, I want to get back to these folks right here, all right. We

have gotten certain progress on the nuclear. We have got to

progress on the missile defense, but what do we do to support

President Kim to encourage his peace initiatives without yanking

the rug out from under him?

Mr. Chairman, can I ask Mr. Downs to respond

to Mr. Laney?