Thank you, sir.

I’ll start my questions, and then I’ll turn it over to Senator

Menendez.

Thank you for being here. I know it’s been a long morning for

you.

Mr. Williamson, given the disturbing track record of the Sudanese

government, including a long history of going back on its commitments

and its horrific record of human rights abuses and, as

this administration has determined, committing genocide, I have

very serious concerns about the bilateral discussions you have mentioned

in your testimony.

Will you commit to complete transparency with this committee

with regard to the discussions that have taken place, the discussions

yet to come, and the U.S. position in the negotiations?

You acknowledge that you have engaged

with, ‘‘many bad actors,’’ with a, ‘‘violent history.’’ Can you identify

those bad actors?

Is our——

Can you identify——

Can you identify some of the worst of those

actors?

Who are they?

Well, I appreciate your answering that question.

And I take it from what you said a few minutes ago, is that

you have—you are confirming that there’s going to be a classified

members briefing.

And that you’re working—have people contacted

you about your offer?

Yeah.

OK.

Well, I appreciate that offer, and I hope the

committee and staff and everybody will make sure this happens

and that we have the staff there with appropriate clearance with

full access to the details of these discussions.

In your testimony, you say that, ‘‘Some may wonder why the administration

is now choosing to accept the Government of Sudan’s

overture.’’ What has changed, other than that Khartoum has formally

asked for carrots, which we presumably could have offered

them at any time?

How——

And this——

]. Intended to be part of the broader

multilateral peace process, or is it just an ad hoc thing?

So, it’s not intended to be ad hoc, it’s intended

to be part of a broader process.

Is that correct?

When you first met with us, in February, you

indicated that your focus has been on Darfur, not on the 20-yearlong

North/South civil war or the Comprehensive Peace Agreement,

which formally ended that war in 2005. I have said, for a long

time, that strong support and pressure for the complete implementation

of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement is essential, not only

if the fragile peace agreement is to hold, but also to see legitimate

peace through the whole of Sudan.

Now, I know you discussed this briefly in your testimony, but

now that you’ve had a chance to visit Southern Sudan and engage

with the government and civil society there, what is your analysis

of the current situation? And what are your priorities with regard

to advancing CPA implementation and reconstruction efforts in the

South?

Thank you for that answer.

And I have additional questions, that I will submit to you, having

to do with the regional efforts—CAR, Chad, et cetera.

But, Senator Menendez has waited long

enough, so I’ll conclude and turn it over to him.