Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And welcome, Mr.

Secretary.

In the mid 1980s, the United States labeled Sudan ‘‘a viper’s nest

of terrorism.’’ But on May 18 of this year, the State Department

removed the Government of Sudan from the list of countries considered

non-cooperative in the war against terrorism. And the

State Department said at the time, ‘‘Sudan has taken a number of

steps in cooperation against terrorism over the last few years.’’ And

now do you think this designation of genocide today, and also the

threat of sanctions, are going to undermine the cooperation that

was expressed on May 18?

A number of us have talked here about the

need for the African Union to participate. What has President Mubarak

been saying on this subject?

Of course, this is a country to his south. President

Mubarak must have a very personal interest in what occurs

there.

From what I’ve read, he’s said, ‘‘Let the Sudanese

Government have more time.’’ Has anything changed since I

last heard that?

And were we listening to them?

Well, that——

Begs the question, then, Why is he

saying that?

How high is the risk of that? There’s an article

today from members of the Sudanese legislature saying that this

is—if we designate, today, genocide on Sudan, that it’s going to undermine

the peace talks, and that it’s going to disintegrate into a

Somalia-style chaos. What are the risks of this?