

Text 2

MCCAIN: Well, I was interested in Senator Obama's reaction to the Russian aggression against Georgia Both sides ought to show restraint Again, a little bit of naivete there He doesn't understand that Russia committed serious aggression against Georgia And Russia has now become a nation fueled by petro-dollars that is basically a KGB apparatchik-run government B And their aggression in Georgia is not acceptable behavior. I don't believe we're going to go back to the Cold War I am sure that that will not happen But I do believe that we need to bolster our friends and allies And that wasn't just about a problem between Georgia and Russia It had everything to do with energy There's a pipeline that runs from the Caspian through Georgia through Turkey And, of course, we know that the Russians control other sources of energy into Europe, which they have used from time to time It's not accidental that the presidents of Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, and Ukraine flew to Georgia, flew to Tbilisi, where I have spent significant amount of time with a great young president, Misha Saakashvili MCCAIN: And they showed solidarity with them, but, also, they are very concerned about the Russian threats to regain their status of the old Russian to regain their status of the old Russian empire Now, I think the Russians ought to understand that we will support – we, the United States – will support the inclusion of Georgia and Ukraine in the natural process, inclusion into NATO We also ought to make it very clear that the Russians are in violation of their cease-fire agreement They have stationed additional troops in Abkhazia and South Ossetia By the way, I went there once, and we went inside and drove in, and there was a huge poster And this is – this is Georgian territory Vladimir Putin, our president It was very clear, the Russian intentions towards Georgia They were just waiting to seize the opportunity So, this is a very difficult situation We want to work with the Russians But we also have every right to expect the Russians to behave in a fashion and keeping with a – with a – with a country who respects international boundaries and the norms of international behavior And watch Ukraine This whole thing has got a lot to do with Ukraine, Crimea, the base of the Russian fleet in Sevastopol And the breakdown of the political process in Ukraine between Tymoshenko and Yushchenko is a very serious problem So watch Ukraine, and let's make sure that we – that the Ukrainians understand that we are their friend and ally

LEHRER: You see any – do you have a major difference with what he just said?