

NOMINATIONS OF THE 110TH CONGRESS—SECOND SESSION

HEARINGS

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS UNITED STATES SENATE

ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

JANUARY 30 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24, 2008

Printed for the use of the Committee on Foreign Relations



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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
110TH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION

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JOHN F. KERRY, Massachusetts	CHUCK HAGEL, Nebraska
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JIM WEBB, Virginia	DAVID VITTER, Louisiana

ANTONY J. BLINKEN, *Staff Director*

KENNETH A. MYERS, Jr., *Republican Staff Director*

*Note: Reassigned to Committee on Finance January 24, 2008.

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JIM WEBB, Virginia	JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming*

ANTONY J. BLINKEN, *Staff Director*

KENNETH A. MYERS, Jr., *Republican Staff Director*

*Note: Appointed February 12, 2008.

NOMINATIONS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2008

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS,
Washington, DC.

Kim, Sung, to be Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks
McGann, Steven, to be Republic of the Fiji Islands, the Republic of
Nauru, the Kingdoms of Tonga and Tuvalu, and the Republic
of Kiribati
Rodley, Carol Ann, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 2:10 p.m., in room SD-419, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Barbara Boxer presiding.

Present: Senators Boxer and Murkowski.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. BARBARA BOXER, U.S. SENATOR FROM CALIFORNIA

Senator BOXER. We will come to order.

Senator Murkowski and I are on a very fast time frame, which is very good for all of you because it means that we are very happy that you are moving forward. We do not have a lot of questions. So I will ask unanimous consent and grant it, that my statement be put in the record.

I will just say we are meeting to consider three distinguished nominees for ambassadorial posts.

Ms. Rodley, the President's nominee to be the Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia, has served her country as a career member of the Foreign Service for 28 years, most recently serving as the consultant for Afghanistan and Iraq, training at the Foreign Service Institute. Prior to that, she served as the Counselor for Political and Military Affairs at the United States embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. Ms. Rodley has experience in Asia, having served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. embassy in Cambodia. She speaks Khmer, the native language of Cambodia.

Mr. Steven McGann, a career Foreign Service member since 1992, is the President's nominee to be Ambassador to the Fiji Islands. If confirmed, he will also serve concurrently as Ambassador to the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu, and the Republic of Kiribati. Mr. McGann previously served as the Director of Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Island Affairs in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, and as a senior advisor to Assistant Secretary of State Chris Hill.

And we are considering the nomination of Mr. Sung Kim, a native of my home State of California, currently the President's Special Envoy for the Six Party talks. In other words, he is Assistant Secretary of State, Christopher Hill's, right-hand man on the issue of negotiating an end to North Korea's nuclear program. What an important assignment. And the President has nominated Mr. Kim for the same position, but this time he will carry the rank of Ambassador. Prior to working on North Korean nuclear disarmament, he served in a variety of posts throughout Asia.

Thank you all so much for service to country.

And at this time, I will put my statement in the record and turn it over to Senator Murkowski.

[The prepared statement of Senator Boxer follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. BARBARA BOXER,
U.S. SENATOR FROM CALIFORNIA

Today, the full Senate Foreign Relations Committee meets to consider three distinguished nominees for ambassadorial posts. As chair of the Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, I am extremely pleased to welcome our nominees, Ms. Carol Ann Rodley, Mr. Steven McGann, and Mr. Sung Kim.

Ms. Rodley, the President's nominee to be the Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia, has served her country as a career member of the Foreign Service for 28 years, most recently serving as a consultant for Afghanistan and Iraq training at the Foreign Service Institute. Prior to that, she served as the Counselor for Political and Military Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. Ms. Rodley also has experience in Asia, having served as the deputy chief of mission at the United States Embassy in Cambodia between 1997 and 2000. She also speaks Khmer—the native language of Cambodia.

Mr. Steven McGann, a career Foreign Service member since 1992, is the President's nominee to be the United States Ambassador to the Republic of the Fiji Islands. If confirmed, he will also serve concurrently as Ambassador to the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga Tuvalu, and the Republic of Kiribati.

Mr. McGann previously served as the Director for Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Island Affairs in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs and as a senior advisor to Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill.

And finally, we are considering the nomination of Mr. Sung Kim, a native of my home State of California. Mr. Kim is currently the President's Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks. In other words, he is Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill's right-hand man on the issue of negotiating an end to North Korea's nuclear program.

The President has nominated Mr. Kim for the same position, but this time he will carry the rank of Ambassador. Prior to working on North Korean nuclear disarmament, Mr. Kim served in a variety of posts throughout Asia.

Thank you all for your service to our country.

I would like to touch on the issues that each of you will face in your respective regions and countries, because I think they clearly illustrate the range of challenges that must be addressed in Asia, including poverty, weapons proliferation, political instability, corruption, lack of adequate foreign investment, and climate change. These challenges affect America's interests and our values.

Cambodia, despite notable economic growth over the past decade, remains one of the poorest countries in Asia, with over 80 percent of the population engaged in subsistence agriculture. Corruption remains pervasive, and the government, whose human rights record was recently rated as "poor" by the United States State Department, too often uses a heavy hand in its dealings with Cambodian citizens.

Even Cambodia's attempt to atone for one of the greatest crimes of the 20th century, the massacre of more than 1.7 million Cambodian citizens by Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge regime, has been plagued by corruption. The Khmer Rouge trials set for this fall are currently at risk as international donors have threatened to withdraw funding over allegations of corruption.

Fiji, a relative success story in the Pacific, was rocked by a military coup in 2006 and has yet to see democracy restored. Kiribati and Tuvalu are facing threats to their very existence from global warming. One day in the not too distant future, islands that are home to tens of thousands may simply be swallowed up by the ocean.

And finally—North Korea.

I was very critical of the Bush administration's initial approach to North Korea, one that favored tough talk and little action over meaningful engagement.

I think the administration learned a harsh lesson with respect to North Korea, one that demonstrated that problems in Asia cannot be simply ignored or wished away.

Unfortunately, this administration woke up one day to learn that North Korea's nuclear weapons program had been significantly expanded. It was only after that realization that the administration initiated the diplomacy we needed through the Six Party Talks.

While the process has been marred by difficulty in recent weeks, I am hopeful that through sustained effort, our end goal can be achieved, the complete and verifiable dismantlement of North Korea's nuclear program.

But reports about Kim Jong-il's health raise the possibility that North Korea's future could be uncertain, with the potential for a jarring and unpredictable transition.

So, as I have said to many ambassadorial nominees heading to Asia before you, it looks like you all have your work cut out for you.

I look forward to hearing your prepared remarks, which I ask that you limit to 3 minutes. Longer statements can be submitted for the record.

But before you give your statements, I would like to turn to the distinguished ranking member of the committee, Sen. Lisa Murkowski, for any comments she may have.

**STATEMENT OF HON. LISA MURKOWSKI,
U.S. SENATOR FROM ALASKA**

Senator MURKOWSKI. Thank you, Madam Chair. I too will keep my comments brief, but want to extend my welcome to the three of you and my appreciation for your willingness to serve.

Mr. Kim, certainly the issue of the Six Party Talks is one that has garnered a tremendous amount of attention lately. Mr. Kim, we followed your travels to North Korea with great interest. I thank you for your willingness to be gone from home for such long periods of time as you work to verify North Korea's compliance in disabling and hopefully the future dismantlement of its nuclear program.

Mr. McGann, welcome. Now, while you may have a small population to pay attention to in your new post, you certainly make up for it in the distance that you will have to travel in order to serve. It kind of reminds me of my home State. But again, thank you for your service.

And Ms. Rodley, Cambodia is certainly making some progress in its political reforms, but we acknowledge that it still has a ways to go. I will be interested to hear your assessment of whether their new-found oil and gas reserves will either help or hinder that progress.

With that, Madam Chairman, I look forward to the statements of each of these respected individuals and to our questions later.

Senator BOXER. Mr. Sung Y. Kim, for the rank of Ambassador, we would be thrilled to hear from you, sir.

**STATEMENT OF SUNG Y. KIM, NOMINEE FOR THE RANK OF
AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE AS SPECIAL ENVOY FOR
THE SIX PARTY TALKS**

Mr. KIM. Thank you very much. Madam Chairman, Senator Murkowski, thank you very much for the opportunity to appear before you today. It is an honor and a privilege to be here today as President Bush's and Secretary Rice's nominee to be Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks and, with your consent, to receive the rank of

Ambassador during my tenure. Few Asian-Americans have had the opportunity to serve the United States as an ambassador, and I am deeply moved and grateful to be considered for this opportunity. If confirmed by the Senate, I look forward to working with this distinguished committee and other Members of Congress to advance United States interests with regard to North Korea and the Six Party Talks.

I would like to take a moment to introduce my family because without their support I would not be here today. My mother and my brother traveled from California, my home State of California, to be here today, and my wife, Jae.

Senator BOXER. Would you stand? Hello.

Mr. KIM. And my wife and our daughters, Erin and Erica, are here today, as well.

Senator BOXER. Stand up. We are so happy to see you all here.

Mr. KIM. I think Erin and Erica are mostly happy to be missing school today. [Laughter.]

May I also introduce some of my distinguished colleagues from the State Department and the NSC, some of the most dedicated and talented young officers in the United States Government. They also took time to be here today.

Madam Chairman, I have had a lifelong interest in Asian affairs. In fact, as a Foreign Service officer, I have spent much of my time advancing United States interests in Asia. Although my direct involvement in the Six Party process started just with my tenure as Director for Korean Affairs, in some ways during my 19 years of diplomatic service, the challenge posed by North Korea's nuclear program has figured prominently and I believe has prepared me well for the important tasks I had. In fact, in some ways, even my pre-State Department career as a prosecutor in Los Angeles I believe has been useful to my work in the Six Party negotiations.

As deputy of our Six Party delegation, I have had the opportunity to lead several interagency delegations to North Korea to try to advance implementation of all Six Party commitments. During this time, I have had the privilege of working closely with Assistant Secretary Hill who, as you know, has energetically led the Six Party process, and I thank him for his support, guidance, and trust. I am also grateful to Secretary Rice for her leadership and support.

Madam Chairman, during the past 2 years, we have taken significant steps in the Six Party process. Working together with our Six Party partners, we have shut down North Korea's nuclear complex in Yongbyon and, in fact, have moved into disabling those facilities in Yongbyon. And our nuclear experts have been on the ground continuously since November of 2007.

North Korea has temporarily halted disablement activities and, in fact, appears to be reversing some steps, but we remain committed to the Six Party process and are working closely with our partners to make sure that the disablement process is put back on track.

On June 26, North Korea submitted a declaration of its nuclear programs. The Six Parties have agreed to a set of principles to guide verification of this declaration, and we are now focused on

developing a strong, robust verification protocol to move the verification process forward.

Madam Chairman, we remain concerned about North Korea's possible activities with uranium enrichment and proliferation activities. North Korea has stated categorically that it is not now and will not in the future engage in any uranium enrichment or proliferation activities. North Korea has also agreed to cooperate with verification with regard to those two issues.

The Six Parties have also established a monitoring mechanism to ensure full implementation of all Six Party commitments, and we believe that would be an important vehicle to check North Korea's fulfillment of its obligations.

Madam Chairman, there is still much work left. We anticipate many challenges and ups and downs as we seek the verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. However, the Six Party process is working and a denuclearized North Korea remains essential to peace and stability in the region. With your consent, I hope to continue to serve my country in the pursuit of this vital national interest.

Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Kim follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SUNG Y. KIM, NOMINEE TO HAVE THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE SIX-PARTY TALKS

Madame Chairman, Senator Murkowski, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. It is an honor and a privilege to be here as President Bush's and Secretary Rice's nominee to serve as Special Envoy for the six-party talks and, with your consent, to receive the rank of ambassador for the duration of my tenure. Few Asian-Americans have had the opportunity to serve the United States as an ambassador, and I am deeply moved and grateful to be considered for this privilege. If confirmed by the Senate, I look forward to working closely with this distinguished committee and with other Members of Congress to advance United States policy with regard to North Korea and the six-party process.

I would like to take a moment to recognize my family because without their support I would not be here today. I am joined by my mother and brother who flew in from my home State of California, and my wife, Jae, and our two daughters, Erin and Erica. I am also pleased that my friends and colleagues from the Department of State, some of the most dedicated and talented young officers in the U.S. Government, are able to join me today.

I have had a life-long interest in Asia, and as a Foreign Service officer, I have had the opportunity to spend much of my time working to advance United States interests in Asia. My direct involvement in the six-party talks began with my tenure as Director for the Office of Korean Affairs, but in looking back at my 19 years of diplomatic service, I realize that my experience has prepared me well for this important assignment. As Political-Military Affairs Chief in Seoul, I worked closely with our military colleagues to strengthen our alliance with the Republic of Korea; as a political officer in Tokyo, I covered Japan's relations with China, as well as North Korea; and as a desk officer in Washington a decade ago, I focused on a key aspect of our relations with China. The challenge posed by North Korea's nuclear program figured prominently in all of these assignments. Even my pre-State Department experience as a prosecutor in Los Angeles in some ways has been useful to my work in six-party negotiations.

As Director for Korean Affairs and as deputy of our six-party delegation for the past year, I have had the honor of leading several interagency delegations to North Korea to advance the implementation of various six-party commitments. These efforts included negotiating a robust package of disablement measures for core North Korean nuclear facilities and securing critical information on North Korea's nuclear program. During this time, I have had the privilege of working closely with Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill, who has energetically led the six-party ne-

negotiations, and I thank him for the trust, support, and the guidance he has given me. I am also grateful to Secretary Rice for her leadership and support.

Madame Chairman, during the past 2 years, we have taken significant steps in the six-party process. Working with our six-party partners, we have shut down North Korea's Yongbyon nuclear complex. We have also moved into disabling the core facilities at Yongbyon, and since November 2007 United States personnel have maintained a presence on the ground in Yongbyon. North Korea temporarily has halted the disablement activities and appears to be

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On June 26, North Korea provided a declaration of its nuclear programs. The six parties have agreed to guiding principles for verification of this declaration, and we are now working with our partners and the North Koreans to develop a strong verification protocol to move the verification process forward.

We still have concerns with North Korea regarding uranium enrichment and proliferation activities. North Korea has stated that it is not now and will not in the future engage in any uranium enrichment or proliferation activities. North Korea also has committed to cooperate with verification activities related to these two issues. The six parties have established a monitoring mechanism intended to ensure

implementation of all six-party commitments, including nonproliferation. We believe this will be an important vehicle to pursue any questions regarding North Korea's follow through on its promises.

Madame Chairman, there is much work left to be done. We anticipate many challenges and ups and downs as we pursue the verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. However, the six-party talks process is working, and a denuclearized North Korea remains essential to peace and security for all the members of the six-party talks. With your consent, I hope to continue to serve my country in pursuit of this vital national interest. Thank you, and I am happy to respond to any questions you have.

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Madame Chairman, there is much work left to be done. We anticipate many challenges and ups and downs as we pursue the verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. However, the six-party talks process is working, and a denuclearized North Korea remains essential to peace and security for all the members of the six-party talks. With your consent, I hope to continue to serve my country in pursuit of this vital national interest. Thank you, and I am happy to respond to any questions you have.

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On June 26, North Korea provided a declaration of its nuclear programs. The six parties have agreed to guiding principles for verification of this declaration, and we are now working with our partners and the North Koreans to develop a strong verification protocol to move the verification process forward.

We still have concerns with North Korea regarding uranium enrichment and proliferation activities. North Korea has stated that it is not now and will not in the future engage in any uranium enrichment or proliferation activities. North Korea also has committed to cooperate with verification activities related to these two issues. The six parties have established a monitoring mechanism intended to ensure implementation of all six-party commitments, including nonproliferation. We believe this will be an important vehicle to pursue any questions regarding North Korea's follow through on its promises.

Madame Chairman, there is much work left to be done. We anticipate many challenges and ups and downs as we pursue the verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. However, the six-party talks process is working, and a denuclearized North Korea remains essential to peace and security for all the members of the six-party talks. With your consent, I hope to continue to serve my country in pursuit of this vital national interest. Thank you, and I am happy to respond to any questions you have.

Senator MURKOWSKI [presiding]. Thank you, Mr. Kim.

Senator Boxer has had to excuse herself for just a moment. She does anticipate being back, but we will proceed. Mr. McGann, if you would like to give your statement.

STATEMENT OF C. STEVEN MCGANN, NOMINEE TO BE AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE FIJI ISLANDS, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU, THE KINGDOM OF TONGA, TUVALU, AND THE REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI

Mr. MCGANN. Madam Chairman, Senator Murkowski, members of the committee, I am deeply honored that President Bush has nominated me to be United States Ambassador to the Republic of the Fiji Islands, the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, and the Kingdoms of Tonga and Tuvalu. I want to thank President Bush and Secretary Rice for their trust in nominating me for this position.

Madam Chairman, I want to thank you and the members of this committee for your efforts to address a burgeoning array of challenges confronting these countries and for giving me this opportunity to appear before you today. If confirmed, I will work closely with the Members of Congress to maintain strong bipartisan support for United States goals and priorities in the Pacific.

Madam Chairman, Senator Murkowski, I would like to acknowledge the support of my wife, Bertra McGann, the dedication of my mother, Evangeline Hutson, who hopefully is watching in Los Angeles today, and the enthusiasm of my children, Leyland, Steven, Bethany, Bradford, and Benjamin, my family, friends, and colleagues, particularly Barbara Benson, my secretary, that led to my being before the committee today.

If confirmed, I plan to build upon my work over the past 2 years leading the Office of Australian, New Zealand, and Pacific Island Affairs to build United States relationships in the Pacific. During my tenure, I will focus on four important areas: promoting democracy, increasing economic growth, strengthening environmental stewardship, and enhancing maritime security.

The Pacific's balmy weather, welcoming people, and natural wonders attract over 150,000 Americans to Embassy Suva's consular district each year. My responsibility is to provide services to these Americans will remain a high priority of our embassy.

Addressing environmental issues will be an essential part of my portfolio. Environmental degradation poses an especially critical challenge for these countries. Many are low-lying atolls that are increasingly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Over-fishing threatens marine sources and hits hard in the Pacific because these island states depend on fish stocks not only for sustenance but as a major source of government revenue. We will continue our work with Pacific countries to help save coral reefs and protect the marine environment from invasive species. If confirmed, I will work with Pacific nations to help make them green economies based on environmentally sustainable policies and adopting renewable energies, including solar, wind, and wave, to advance our common interests.

I would like to take a few moments to address a number of pressing bilateral issues the United States faces in the Pacific, beginning with Fiji.

In December 2006, the Fiji military, led by Commodore Voreqe Bainimarama, overthrew the country's lawfully elected government. This was Fiji's fourth coup in 19 years. In accordance with the Foreign Operations Assistance Act, the United States suspended military and some foreign assistance programs in Fiji because of the coup, and those restrictions will not be relaxed until Fiji returns to democracy. We have also imposed visa sanctions and taken other measures directed against coup leaders and their supporters. We have taken these steps in close coordination with our allies and partners in the region to underline the urgency to restore democracy and to bolster the efforts of the Pacific Islands Forum. If confirmed, I will work with all elements of Fijian society and regional partners to quickly restore the rule of law, strengthen civil society, and rebuild democratic institutions in Fiji.

Nauru's once bountiful phosphate mines are almost exhausted. Per capita income in that country has plummeted from among the world's highest to near subsistence levels. Tuvalu has expressed concern that any rise in sea level may completely engulf Tuvalu's nine atolls, precipitating the relocation of its entire population. Kiribati generally manages its affairs responsibly but has severely limited prospects for economic development. This year's legislative

elections showed that Tongans have a strong desire for democratic reform, and Tongan King George Tupou V has agreed that democratic reforms are needed in the country. If confirmed as ambassador, I would work closely with our longstanding friends to address these economic, political, and social issues.

Finally, I will do my best to promote excellent relations between the United States and each of these five countries and the territories within my consular district. Working together, we can achieve our common goals for a more peaceful and prosperous Pacific region.

Again, I applaud the committee's efforts to address challenges confronting the Pacific region, and at this time I would be pleased to respond to any questions you may have.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. McGann follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF C. STEPHEN MCGANN, NOMINEE TO BE AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE FIJI ISLANDS, THE REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI, THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU, THE KINGDOM OF TONGA, AND TUVALU

Madam Chairman, Senator Murkowski, members of the committee, I am deeply honored that President Bush has nominated me to be United States Ambassador to the Republic of the Fiji Islands, the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, and Tuvalu. I want to thank President Bush and Secretary Rice for their trust in nominating me for this position. Madam Chairman, I want to thank you and the members of this committee for your efforts to address a burgeoning array of challenges confronting these countries and for giving me this opportunity to appear before you today. If confirmed, I will work closely with Members of Congress to maintain strong bipartisan support for U.S. goals and priorities in the Pacific.

Madame Chairman, I would like to acknowledge the support of my wife, Bertra McGann, the dedication of my mother, Evangeline Hutson, and the enthusiasm of my children, Leyland, Steven, Bethany, Bradford, and Benjamin, my family, friends, and colleagues that led to my being before the committee today.

Prior to being nominated, I served as in the State Department's Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs as the Director of the Office of Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Island Affairs, as well as the Maritime Security Coordinator. I also served as the Director for Asia and Near East in the Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration, as well as in other positions during my 29 year career in the U.S. Foreign Service.

If confirmed, I plan to build upon my work over the past 2 years leading the Office of Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Island Affairs to build United States relationships in the Pacific. During my tenure, I focused on four important areas—promoting democracy, increasing economic growth, strengthening environmental stewardship, and enhancing maritime security. As ambassador, I will be building upon the United States historically friendly relations with Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu. Those relations began with 19th century mariners and missionaries and grew stronger during the Second World War. Some of the bloodiest fighting in the Pacific theater took place on Tarawa atoll in Kiribati, and United States forces set up bases at several locations in Fiji, Tonga, and Tuvalu.

If confirmed as the United States Ambassador, resident in Suva, Fiji, I would be responsible for our bilateral relationships with five independent nations. Suva also is the headquarters of the Pacific Islands Forum, the preeminent multilateral organization in the region and home to offices of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, which manages technical and development assistance programs in the region. Fiji's place in the Pacific, as host to numerous diplomatic missions and international organizations, including the United Nations, and as a transportation center, makes it a key focal point for our larger regional engagement.

Embassy Suva is a busy hub of American activity in the Pacific. If confirmed, I will lead an embassy team of professional, highly dedicated public servants. They manage relations with five sovereign countries and collaborate with multilateral organizations. The embassy serves as a center for regional public diplomacy activities, environmental programs and policies, and defense-related relationships. The embassy also has consular and commercial responsibilities for French Polynesia, New

Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna, making it the largest geographic consular district in the world. The Pacific's balmy weather, welcoming people, and natural wonders attract over 150,000 American visitors to Embassy Suva's consular district annually. Provide services to these Americans would remain a high priority of our embassy during my tenure.

If confirmed as ambassador, fostering regional stability and eliciting support for the war on terror would remain priorities of the embassy. Tonga and Tuvalu became early members of the coalition to liberate Iraq. Tongan troops currently provide security for coalition forces at Camp Victory. Fiji's troops are doing the same for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq in Baghdad.

Pacific Island nations face many of the same "global issues" threats and challenges that the United States and other countries face—but in the case of the Pacific Islands the repercussions can be more acute.

Protecting the environment, fighting HIV/AIDS, stemming the flow of illicit drugs, and combating human trafficking are growing concerns in the region. Environmental degradation poses an especially critical challenge for these countries. Many are low-lying atolls that are increasingly vulnerable to the effects of rising sea levels. Overfishing threatens marine resources and hits hard in the Pacific, because these island states depend on fish stocks not only for the sustenance, but as a major source of government revenue. We are also working with Pacific countries to help save coral reefs and protect the marine environment from invasive species. If confirmed, I will work with Pacific nations to help make them green economies based on environmentally sustainable policies and adopting renewable energies, including solar, wind, and wave, to advance our common interests.

A key partner in this effort is the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). I have had the pleasure of working with several SPC leaders, and if confirmed, I would look forward to our continued collaboration in such areas as maritime security; the fight against diabetes and other public-health concerns; women's issues; biosecurity; natural resource conservation; and economic development. In addition, if confirmed, I will implement initiatives to spread to the Pacific community the economic and employment opportunities related to the multibillion dollar relocation of United States forces from Okinawa to Guam.

As in other parts of the world, Peace Corps volunteers in the Pacific make a tremendous difference in so many lives. Simply put, they are among America's most effective ambassadors. The Peace Corps plays an essential role in enhancing our people-to-people relations in the region. I have worked closely with Peace Corps staff and volunteers during the past 2 years and in my previous posts. If confirmed, I will build on these close relationships to ensure the health and safety of volunteers, and consult with key stakeholders on the possibility of expanding the Peace Corps' presence in the region.

I would like to take a few moments to address a number of pressing bilateral issues the United States faces in the region, beginning with Fiji. This list is by no means exhaustive. In December 2006 the Fiji military, led by Commodore Voreqe Bainimarama, overthrew the country's lawfully elected government. This was the Fiji's fourth coup in 19 years. The coup has created a prolonged political and economic crisis in Fiji. In accordance with the Foreign Operations Assistance Act, the United States suspended military and some foreign assistance programs in Fiji because of the coup, and those restrictions will not be relaxed until Fiji returns to democracy. We have also imposed visa sanctions and taken other measures directed against coup leaders and their supporters. We have taken these steps in close coordination with our allies and partners in the region to underline the urgency to restore democracy and to bolster the efforts of the Pacific Islands Forum. Recently, Fiji's interim government withdrew its pledge to Pacific leaders to hold free and fair elections no later than March 2009. If confirmed, I will work with all elements of Fijian society and regional partners to quickly restore the rule of law, strengthen civil society, and rebuild democratic institutions in Fiji.

Nauru's once bountiful phosphate mines are almost exhausted. Per capita income in that country has plummeted from among the world's highest to near subsistence levels. Tuvalu, one of the world's smallest nations, has 9 atolls only a few feet above sea level. The Government of Tuvalu has expressed concern that any rise in sea level associated with climate change may completely engulf Tuvalu and necessitate the relocation of its entire population. Kiribati generally manages its affairs responsibly but has severely limited prospects for economic development. This year's legislative elections showed that Tongans have a strong desire for democratic reform, and Tongan King George Tupou V has agreed that democratic reforms are needed in the country. If confirmed as ambassador, I would work closely with our long-standing friends of the United States to address these economic, political, and social issues.

Many nations have significant interests in the South Pacific. Australia and New Zealand have strong cultural, political, historical, and security ties with the region, and the United States works most closely with these two countries in coordinating policies and programs throughout the area of Embassy Suva's responsibility. If confirmed, I will work with my counterparts in Australia and New Zealand to achieve our common objectives.

China is rapidly expanding ties throughout the Pacific in its pursuit of seeking resources and commercial opportunities. China's competition with Taiwan for diplomatic recognition and influence plays out directly in Embassy Suva's area of responsibility: Kiribati, Nauru, and Tuvalu recognize Taiwan, while Fiji and Tonga recognize China. If confirmed, I will engage with both China and Taiwan to press for responsibility, accountability, and transparency in development programs to ensure that their assistance supports good governance and the rule of law.

Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu occupy a strategically important place in the Pacific. As our partners in addressing critical global and regional issues, it is in the United States interest to remain fully engaged with these countries. If confirmed, I will do my best to promote excellent relations between the United States and each of these five countries and the territories within my consular district. Working together we can achieve our common goals for a more peaceful and prosperous Pacific region.

Again, I applaud the committee's efforts to address challenges confronting the Pacific region. At this time I would be pleased to respond to any questions you may have.

Senator MURKOWSKI. Thank you, Mr. McGann.

And finally, we will turn to Carol Rodley for your statement. Thank you.

**STATEMENT OF CAROL ANN RODLEY, NOMINEE TO BE
AMBASSADOR TO THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**

Ms. RODLEY. Madam Chairman, Senator Murkowski, members of the committee, I am honored to appear before you today as President Bush's nominee to be the Ambassador of the United States to the Kingdom of Cambodia, and am grateful to the President and to Secretary of State Rice for their trust and confidence in sending my name forward for your consideration. If confirmed, I look forward to working closely with you and other interested Members of Congress to advance United States interests in Cambodia.

I would like to introduce my husband, David Newhall, and my son, Niles Lashway, who are in the audience. Two other children of mine are tied up with the demands of law school and organic chemistry and are unable to join us today, but are rooting for me from afar. The career I have had in public service has been a great privilege, but it has demanded sacrifices of my family and I would like to acknowledge their great partnership and unfailing support and thank them for that.

Senator MURKOWSKI. We thank them.

Ms. RODLEY. The United States reestablished relations with Cambodia in 1993, following one of the largest U.N. peacekeeping operations ever mounted. Although the effects of Khmer Rouge rule still linger and Cambodia's road to democracy has been a difficult one, today the country is at peace. Its economy is growing rapidly, and Cambodians express more confidence in their future than they have in the past. Throughout this transition, the United States has been a proud beacon of support for democracy and human rights in Cambodia. A vibrant Cambodian NGO community today flourishes with our moral and financial support and has taken the lead in advancing the causes of political freedom, democratic governance, justice, and respect for human rights. This year, the Khmer

Rouge Tribunal is scheduled to hold its first trial for crimes against humanity, a significant milestone on the path to justice and reconciliation. Cambodia, once the beneficiary of U.N. peacekeeping, today has troops deployed in southern Sudan and its demining experts have served honorably in Afghanistan.

While much work remains to be done to strengthen the rule of law, democratic institutions, and respect for human rights, Cambodia and Cambodians have come a very long way from the dark days of Pol Pot's evil reign. If confirmed, I look forward to advancing United States interests in Cambodia by promoting freedom and greater openness, pressing for justice, standing up for and speaking out for human rights and the rule of law whenever possible, safeguarding United States citizens, 150,000 of whom live in or travel to Cambodia every year, advocating for United States business interests, and working hard to achieve the fullest possible accounting for United States personnel still missing from the Vietnam War.

Thank you, Madam Chairman, Senator Murkowski. I am happy to answer any questions you might have.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Rodley follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF CAROL ANN RODLEY, NOMINEE
TO BE AMBASSADOR TO THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

Madam Chairman, Senator Murkowski, members of the committee, I am honored to appear before you today as President Bush's nominee to be the Ambassador of the United States to Cambodia. I am grateful to President Bush and Secretary of State Rice for their confidence and trust in sending my name to the Senate for your consideration. If confirmed, I look forward to working with the committee and other interested Members of Congress to advance United States interests in Cambodia.

I would like to introduce my husband, David Newhall, and two of my children, Alice and Steven, who are in the audience. Another son, Niles, is away at school in West Virginia. The career I have had in public service has been an enormous privilege, but it has demanded sacrifices from my family and I want them to know how much I appreciate their partnership and unfailing support.

In my 28 years in the Foreign Service, I have served in a number of countries, including Cambodia and Afghanistan, which have suffered from political strife, ethnic conflict, post-conflict challenges, and insurgencies. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve and represent my country and I have always sought challenging assignments, both abroad and at home, where I believed I could make a difference. I am recently back from a year in Afghanistan, where I worked on coordination of civilian and military counterinsurgency efforts and reform of Afghan security forces. That experience reinforced for me the importance of an integrated approach to the complex problems that face us and our foreign partners.

The United States reestablished relations with Cambodia in 1993, following one of the largest U.N. peacekeeping operations ever. Although the effects of Khmer Rouge rule still linger and Cambodia's road to democracy has been a difficult one, the country is at peace and its economy is growing. National Assembly elections in July took place peacefully and with a significant voter turnout, and Cambodians themselves are more confident of their future than they have been in the past. Throughout this time, the United States has been a beacon of support for democratic development and protection of human rights in Cambodia. A vibrant Cambodian NGO community flourishes with our financial and moral support and has taken the lead in advancing the causes of political freedom, democratic governance, justice, and respect for human dignity. This year, the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, established to bring the senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge to justice, and which I worked to establish during my previous service in Cambodia, is scheduled to hold its first trial—a significant milestone on the path to reconciliation and justice. Cambodia, once the beneficiary of a U.N. peacekeeping operation, today has deminers deployed in southern Sudan, and other Cambodian demining experts have shared their expertise on mine action coordination and victim assistance in Afghanistan.

While much work still needs to be done to strengthen rule of law, democratic institutions and respect for human rights, Cambodia and Cambodians have come a long way from the dark days of Pol Pot's evil reign. If confirmed, I would continue

to emphasize that support for democracy, human rights, and the rule of law remain cornerstones of United States policy in Cambodia.

The United States and Cambodia share many common interests and our bilateral relationship is also growing closer. Cambodia has cooperated with us for years in helping achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing from the Vietnam War. More recently, law enforcement and counterterrorism cooperation between our two nations has increased, as has our military-to-military engagement. Cambodia has also made significant progress in combating trafficking in persons and deserves praise for its support of religious freedom. Cambodia continues to improve its business and foreign investment climate, and its economy is growing. However it remains one of the poorest countries in Asia and is wracked with corruption that both inhibits development and threatens much of the progress that has been made. As I alluded to earlier, Cambodia's democratic institutions are still fragile and need our support.

If confirmed, I look forward to advancing our interests in Cambodia, promoting freedom, pressing for justice, standing up for human rights and the rule of law, safeguarding the 150,000 Americans who live in or travel to that country each year, and advocating for American business interests.

I would like to mention the progress Cambodia has made in the area of child welfare, which I know is of interest to many members of this committee. Intercountry adoption from Cambodia has been suspended since 2001, when widespread corruption and trafficking in children was discovered. Since then, Cambodia has ratified the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption and is working to establish the capability to meet its Convention obligations. If confirmed, I will work closely with Cambodian counterparts to develop a system that respects both Cambodian and United States law and provides safeguards for vulnerable children, birth parents, and adoptive parents.

I believe my 28 years in the Foreign Service, including my recent service in Afghanistan as Counselor for Political/Military Affairs, my years as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research, and my previous service as Deputy Chief of Mission in Cambodia have prepared me well for this assignment. I would certainly draw on this experience to ensure that our embassy uses its resources wisely, that we intensify our engagement on important issues that affect U.S. national security, and that the safety and security of American citizens remains a top priority.

Thank you, Madam Chairman, Senator Murkowski, and members of the committee. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Senator BOXER [presiding]. Thanks. I have asked Senator Murkowski to run the hearing, and I am going to ask my questions first. I just have three things happening all at the same moment in my life, which is what happens in the Senate.

I wanted to talk to you, Mr. Kim, about where we are today. I do not want to assume anything and I do not want to ask you some question that you really cannot answer, given the instability there. Do you feel that the Six Party Talks process will move forward regardless of who is at the helm in North Korea?

Mr. KIM. Thank you very much, Madam Chairman.

We, of course, have no information to confirm the press reports. Senator BOXER.. Yes.

Mr. KIM. But we are continuing to monitor the situation very closely. We are also in close contact with all of our Six Party partners about the situation in Pyongyang.

It is difficult to speculate, but in terms of the Six Party process, we of course remain fully committed to the Six Party process, and we hope that whatever the leadership situation is in North Korea, that the North Koreans also realize that it is in their interest to continue to work with us toward the goal of the denuclearized Korean Peninsula and the Six Party process.

Senator BOXER. It is so key.

I have some other questions, but I am going to ask you to answer them in the next few days. There is nothing tricky for the others.

Mr. KIM. Thank you.

Senator BOXER. So we will leave open the record.

I am just very pleased at these nominations. I just want to make sure that Senator Murkowski knew that. She has graciously agreed to chair the rest of the hearing and ask the questions. And I wish you every good wish, and I am so happy that some of the families are here to give you the support that you deserve. And we thank you for everything you have given to your country and will continue to give into the future.

Senator, thank you so much for taking the chair for me.

Senator MURKOWSKI [presiding]. Thank you, Senator Boxer.

Mr. Kim, let me just continue in the same line that Senator Boxer has mentioned. We are not quite certain the status of Kim Jong Il. We can do a lot of speculation here in terms of how the talks will proceed, but moving from that, we recognize that some of the other countries in the Six Party Talks are also looking at some changes. How will the resignation of Japan's Prime Minister impact the Six Party Talks, or will it?

Mr. KIM. The Japanese Government has been a very good partner in the Six Party process, and we fully expect that their participation in the process will continue through the transition.

They, of course, as you know, Senator have had serious concerns about the abductions issue, and we have pressed the North Koreans repeatedly to address Japan's concerns. And in fact, we were cautiously encouraged when the North Koreans and the Japanese reached an agreement on a set of modalities for resumption of investigations into that issue. I understand that investigation has been put on hold pending the transition in Tokyo, and I would urge the North Koreans to proceed with the resumption of investigations as soon as possible.

Senator MURKOWSKI. We recognize from Japan's perspective and from our perspective as a friend and ally of Japan that that aspect is something that we know needs to be addressed.

What do you make about North Korea's statement that it would consider steps to restore the operations at Yongbyon?

Mr. KIM. North Korea is known to issue unhelpful statements, and I am afraid that is one example. Any move to restore Yongbyon, I think, would be a serious mistake. We have noticed that they have begun to take some steps that would indicate restoration of Yongbyon, but these are relatively—

Senator MURKOWSKI. Such as what?

Mr. KIM. Such as they removed some disabled equipment that had been placed in storage. They took them out and brought them into operational areas. But at the moment, we have not detected any serious step to restore the operation of the Yongbyon facilities. In fact, we have been talking to all of our Six Party partners about the current situation, and I think all of our partners share our deep concern that any move to reverse disablement at Yongbyon would be a serious mistake.

Senator MURKOWSKI. So you think at this point in time that it is just talk by North Korea and that they do not intend—or you have indicated that there may be some signals out there that they could be serious about restoring the operations.

Mr. KIM. Yes, Senator. It is always difficult to figure the North Koreans out. It remains one of the most opaque societies and government.

What we have, of course, noticed is the statements, as you have cited, and some movement in Yongbyon that might indicate that they would move toward restoring Yongbyon, but these steps have been limited. And what we would like them to do is focus on getting a verification protocol done so that the verification of their declaration can move forward. I think that is the most urgent task. Any move to reverse disablement I think detracts from the work of the Six Party process, and I think it is something that they should not consider.

Senator MURKOWSKI. Are you seeing good cooperation then by our partners in the Six Party Talks on the issue of verification?

Mr. KIM. Yes, Senator, we have. We have continued to work very closely with the Chinese and all of our other Six Party partners in developing a strong and robust verification protocol that would help guide the verification activities on the ground in North Korea.

Senator MURKOWSKI. Good. Well, I thank you for your responses. Again, for all the efforts and your good work with regard to the Six Party Talks and all that you are doing, we appreciate it greatly.

Mr. McGann, you had mentioned the economic issues and associated matters and made reference to the coup in Fiji. With the coup and the subsequent pledge by China for continued foreign assistance and then the riot in Tonga in relation to China's economic infrastructure there, are there any other hot spots that we should be looking at in the Pacific islands as the China and Taiwan economic diplomacy plays out? Anything else you might be aware of that you could share?

Mr. MCGANN. Senator Murkowski, I believe that we have to work closely with China to make sure that China's approach toward development and assistance in the Pacific does not undermine our own efforts to promote good governance and rule of law. In the past few years, we have been engaged with China to try and move them away from what we call these white elephant projects, you know, building stadiums, building residences, and move in a direction that we are trying to move and that is focusing on capacity building, training, and technical assistance to the Pacific islands. We think we are hearing a responsive chord in China in that they are willing to listen to us. In that regard, while we are mindful that China has not altered its assistance to Fiji, again we are constantly talking with them about making sure that their efforts do not stray from our principal goal in Fiji which is the quick restoration of democracy and the legitimate government based on the existing constitution.

I would also like to add that we have often spoken with Taiwan officials about their responsibility as a donor in the Pacific region and that Taiwan should not focus on diplomatic recognition but, in fact, continue to focus on building friends in the Pacific. I might add that Taiwan has collaborated with the United States in the Pacific on very good issues such as polio eradication. Taiwan has also donated portable solar-powered generators to some Pacific islands. We think this is the right direction for Taiwan to take and that if we can continue to keep the focus on the real assistance needs of

the Pacific region and move it away from this unnecessary competition over diplomatic recognition between Beijing and Taipei, then we can eliminate the concern about their provoking or contributing inadvertently to creating hot spots in the Pacific.

Senator MURKOWSKI. Now, in the past or traditionally, Australia and New Zealand have been the very close partners certainly to Fiji. Is that still the case, or have China and India overtaken them in terms of those partnerships?

Mr. MCGANN. No, they have not. Australia and New Zealand are members of the Pacific Island Forum. Both Australia and New Zealand give substantial assistance to the Pacific region, not just Fiji alone. And we work very closely with both Canberra and Wellington to make sure that our policies in the region are complementary.

Although the United States is not a member of the Pacific Island Forum's group, which Australia and New Zealand and other Pacific island countries participate in, we are a Pacific nation, and we have increased our engagement over the past few years simply because we understand that there is an urgency in the Pacific, an urgency for us to address issues such as how to deal with noncommunicable diseases such as diabetes, how to address the food and energy concerns of the Pacific, which is why we are focusing on trying to direct the Pacific countries toward renewable energies. We believe that by continuing our engagement, the United States can work in a complementary fashion as a Pacific nation with all of our partners in the region to move toward our common goals which, as I said, are good governance, sustainable development, maritime security, and reaffirming the rule of law.

Senator MURKOWSKI. Very good. Well, thank you. We appreciate your statements here.

Ms. Rodley, I had mentioned in my very brief remarks about Cambodia's recently discovered oil and gas reserves. Can you tell me how far along they are in their development and whether or not you believe that the opportunity for increased revenues impact the government and whether or not they have already spent the money before it has come to them? Just give me a status on what is going on there, please.

Ms. RODLEY. Thank you, Senator Murkowski, and I especially appreciate the heads-up at the beginning that that question was coming.

There are two points that I would like to make about the oil and gas reserves.

The first one is that the most promising offshore tracts are in the area where the territorial claims of Cambodia and Thailand overlap, and Cambodia and Thailand have made very little progress to date in resolving those overlapping claims so that they can be exploited for the benefits of both countries. That is something that needs to be paid attention to and to be really stepped up.

The second concern that I have is that Cambodia has a lot of work to do still to reduce corruption, official corruption and all kinds of corruption, so that when those resources come on line eventually, it will benefit all of the people of Cambodia, that all of the people will benefit from those resources rather than just a few elites.

Senator MURKOWSKI. How about an update on adoptions? Are we any closer to seeing adoptions from Cambodia resumed?

Ms. RODLEY. The Cambodian Government has become a signatory to the Hague Convention which is a major step in that direction. Right now they are in the process of drafting domestic legislation to implement the Hague Convention. Once that legislation is passed, the next step and perhaps the hardest will be to establish the domestic institutions that will discharge their Hague responsibilities. And if I am confirmed as ambassador, the U.S. embassy will stand ready to assist them with that task.

Senator MURKOWSKI. We appreciate that.

And then one final question just about the latest election. What should we take away from that?

Ms. RODLEY. The election was the freest election that Cambodia has ever had. We believe the results of the election express the will of the Cambodian people. The U.S. embassy sent monitors freely throughout the country observing the polling and followed carefully the proceedings of the national election committee in resolving complaints and allegations of fraud after the election. While there were some isolated incidents of fraud and there may have been pockets of more systematic fraud, we believe that the election reflects the will of the Cambodian people.

Senator MURKOWSKI. Well, I thank you for that.

That concludes the questions that I had of the three of you. I appreciate your statements, and I echo Senator Boxer's comments in recognizing the caliber and the quality of individuals that we have before us. Your names submitted by the President for these respective positions—truly I think you will do great service to our country as you clearly have in the past. And we wish you well as you move through the process.

I too want to thank and recognize your families, whether they are here with you in person and missing school or whether they are viewing this on TV. We truly do appreciate the support that the families allow our public servants as they represent our country in various capacities, and it is so very fitting that we give them a little special thank you here this afternoon. So with that, I thank you so very much and best wishes to you all.

With that, we stand adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 2:45 p.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

