

Saddam Hussein's use of environmental spoilage as a weapon of war raises the question of what lessons we are going to learn from this conflict for the decades to come. There are a number of dimensions of post-hostilities planning that we are now actively engaged in, both in terms of our own work and in our consultations with other countries, particularly those of the region and our principal partners in the Coalition. These dimensions include planning for the post-hostilities environment in the region, addressing the very real human and reconstruction requirements that are going to be needed, greater regional stability over the longer term, and learning larger lessons such as how to contain the use of environmental terrorism and how to deal with the continued problem of too many arms and too many weapons of mass destruction, too easily available.

We are working hard on these areas and I look forward to sharing our plans with you as they develop.

Those are remarks I wanted to make, Mr. Chairman, by way of opening, and I would be pleased to deal with questions that Members have in the course of this briefing.