

because it is a commitment to Iran which is not in NATO as Turkey is. And thus, it does add to the value of the Northern Tier in keeping the Russians away from any kind of military adventures further to the South.

In the Arab World we still have some kind of military posture and presence even if it isn't based on those countries themselves, and even if it isn't obvious to the eye of anyone who is there. The important thing is the ability of the United States to bring military power to bear in the area when it might be necessary to do so, and to have that factor present in the calculations both of the Arab Governments and of the Soviet. And it doesn't make any difference whether the bases are there or not, from that standpoint. The main thing is to know that the United States in certain cases would act, and that it has the capability of doing so.

The second pillar of our policy is diplomacy. And here, as I said, we're no longer trying to enlist new allies or set up a defense organization that we don't have there already. But, diplomacy is necessary to keep as much influence as we can in a very unstable situation with periodic revolts, changes of government, and all the rest; preventive diplomacy, as the State Department likes to call it, necessary to keep local conflicts from erupting and perhaps growing into something worse and endangering our vital interests there - to control that kind of situation.

Also, to encourage those policies and trends which keep the revolutionary forces in orderly channels so far as you can do that. You're never going to get any real stability in the Middle East, but it's a question of how you can control the instability and the degree you can