Mr.

Speaker, I intend to vote ‘‘no’’ on this

resolution.

We just voted on a resolution on

whether or not to authorize in Libya,

and this House overwhelmingly voted

‘‘no,’’ no to authorizing that. I have

been opposed to this action in Libya. I

have not been persuaded that the U.S.

has a vital interest there. And by the

way, we were not attacked by Qadhafi.

I spent 2 hours in a tent with Qadhafi

in 2003. We were the first congressional

delegation in over 38 years to be there.

In fact, we were there because he was

voluntarily giving up his nuclear arms.

I will say that there probably are few

dictators who are going to do that

again after watching what is happening

over there. He is a bloody dictator; but

one of the things I learned, he hates al

Qaeda.

I also think that this action vividly

demonstrates the weakness of NATO,

quite frankly. It is a great organization.

We appreciate their partnerships,

of course. They are our allies. But it is

an antiquated organization. The United

States is paying 75 percent of the cost

of NATO, and NATO can’t even take

out a two-bit dictator like Qadhafi.

Why? Because we have enabled our allies,

providing their defense for them

for decades. And instead of spending

money on their defense, as they said, 2

percent of their GDP, they are spending

their money on their social programs;

they are spending their money

on lower corporate tax rates, et cetera.

So I would say, yes, Qadhafi is a

bloody dictator. He is a terrorist. He

did not attack us. And by the way, let

us remember who let the Lockerbie

bomber out way early as well.

We need to get out of Libya, Mr.

Speaker.