I thank the gentleman

for yielding.

I will start out first by associating

myself with the remarks of the gentleman

from Maryland (Mr. HOYER),

who I think laid this out clearly. This

is a message that goes globally. This is

a destiny message.

The Speaker of this House understands

his role. He understands that all

of America is watching us today. And

even if I had a vote, I would have said,

no, don’t go into Libya. If I had an opportunity

to amend this resolution, I

would say let’s limit the authorization

to a shorter period of time so that the

President can come do what he should

do. But I believe that there are scores

of Americans in their graves today because

this Congress sent the wrong

message in several conflicts that encouraged

our enemy.

Clausewitz wrote: ‘‘The object of war

is to destroy the enemy’s will and ability

to conduct war.’’ And I would shorten

that up to say, if you can destroy

their will, it doesn’t matter what their

ability is; you’ve taken their ability

with it.

But this message encourages our

enemy. This resolution says that Congress

stands with the constitutional

authority of the President to be Commander

in Chief and to conduct our foreign

policy. We should conduct our disagreement

with the President domestically,

not in our foreign policy and not

by limiting an activity that could abrogate

our NATO treaty.