Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, Iranian President Ahmadinejad

called for the United States’

greatest ally, Israel, to be wiped off the map.

Unfortunately, these vile words are not

new, nor were they his own. He was

quoting Iran’s self-proclaimed enemy

of the United States and Israel, Aya-

tollah Khomeini. But perhaps even

more disturbing is a place you can find

those words written, on their Shahab-3

ballistic missile. These missiles have a

range of 1,250 miles and could easily

strike Israel.

Our Nation is blessed with a vibrant

Jewish constituency, and I value my

interaction with Jews in my district

and during the many trips I have made

to Israel. We can learn from the Jewish

people that when your enemy says he

is going to kill you, you better pay at-

tention.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge this

body to issue a sharp rebuke of the Ira-

nian President’s words. Further, we

should immediately consider proposals

to strengthen sanctions under the Iran

and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 and

authorize the President to provide fi-

nancial and political assistance to pro-

democracy groups within Iran.