Mr. Speaker,

I thank my colleague and friend,

the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr.

SMITH), for yielding; and I thank the

gentleman from Florida (Mr. DAVIS)

and my colleagues on both sides of the

aisle.

We are in agreement on this. This

needs to be done. The whole free world

needs to react to the brutality that is

occurring in Kosovo.

Kosovo is a nation of 2 million people.

They voted 7 years ago for independence

status, along with their sister

republics in Yugoslavia, Slovenia, Macedonia,

Bosnia and Croatia. They were

denied it even though they voted overwhelmingly

for this status.

Slobodan Milosevic is only supported

by 5 percent of the population, but yet

he reacted to this vote with unprecedented

brutality. Repression, beatings,

murders, rapes go on constantly, many

of them for the purpose of intimidating

the population.

There are 60,000 Serb police, paramilitary

and military forces that exercise

complete control over 2 million Albanian

Muslim Kosovars. It is wrong.

It is unbelievable that this situation

exists at the end of the 20th century.

When I was over in Kosovo, I saw the

hospitals, the clinics closed, schools

closed, physicians dismissed, businesses

summarily closed by the Serb

police. In fact, when the OSCE monitors

were driven out of the country,

the incidence of brutality and human

rights violations increased 85 percent.

This was all monitored by a Council

for the Defense of Human Rights and

Freedoms that we met with in

Pristina. Yet, when we met with them

that very week, Serbian police had

gone into their office and beaten them.

Serbian police stole the photographs,

the records that they had. When their

attorney attempted to protest to the

court, he opened his door that night

and was bludgeoned on the head for

protesting.

In this country, attorneys for the defense

go to court. In Kosovo, they go to

the hospital.

This is wrong. This is intolerable,

what is existing. These people only

want freedom. They want the opportunity

to protect themselves and to exercise

their most basic human rights.

We saw in one school where the Serbian

government, through the police,

had taken over half of the school that

was supposed to be available for 1,000

children. There were a hundred or so

Serbian children using half of it because

they were Serbian, and there are

almost 1,000 children limited to the

other half of the school only because

they were Muslim children. And they

had bricked over some of the bathrooms.

One of the parents protested at this

cruelty toward young children. And because

he protested, because he had two

young daughters in that school, he was

mutilated, cut open from head to groin,

and dumped on the doorstep of his family.

This is the kind of thing that has

given rise to the protests we read about

today.

The OSCE human rights monitors

need to be monitoring human rights

violations. 90% of the population needs

to be enfranchised—legally politically

and economically. We will not have

peace in the Balkans until their is justice

in Kosovo.