Mr. Speaker, I rise in

support of this resolution. I wish I

could say that Serbia’s repression of

Kosova comes as a surprise but I think

we saw it coming by Slobodan

Milosevic’s aggression in the region.

If dialogue is to happen between the

Serbs and the ethnic Albanians, then

we must stop sending mixed messages

and signals. Let me say that I think

that we were too quick to reward Belgrade

for its positive steps in Bosnia

peace process without taking into consideration

what was going on in

Kosova.

One of the greatest fears is a spill

over into Macedonia which would be

terrible for many reasons [Greece and

Turkey] not just geo-strategic ones. I

wish I had been here to ask Robert

Gelbard about what seems to be the approval

of the 700 man extension of the

UN peacekeeping force in Macedonia—

UNPREDEP (Unpred)—whch was due to

withdraw this summer.

I know that the election scheduled

for March 22 was cancelled especially

after the slaughter of 84 people. I understand

that Robert Gelbard, in a private

meeting with Milosevic, asked

just for the families to see the victims

bodies before they were buried. Even

while Gelbard was boarding the plane,

Serbia proceeded with the burial

against the wishes of those that were

mourning. In addition, let me say that

when one side is really serious about

talks they at least inform the other

side of an agenda, time and place of the

meetings.

Ethnic cleansing and massacrers cannot

be tolerated whether in Rwanda,

Bosnia or another Serbian enclave—

Kosova. In response to the recent attacks,

I along with other members of

the Albanian caucus, have sent a letter

to the President to address the deteriorating

situation in Kosova. In conclusion,

Kosova reminds me of the

Tiananmen Square incident. Years

later, we are still going on with ‘‘business

as usual.’’ I hope Pristina [Priss-stina]

won’t fall victim to this type of

policy.