Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution.

As I have listened to this thorough debate and thought about the resolution

we are about to vote on, it seems to me

the Persian Gulf War has never really ended. In 1991 Saddam Hussein agreed

to a conditional surrender. He has not

met the conditions of his surrender.

Iraq is still fighting, and we need to respond.

I have heard some of my colleagues

say that use of force against Iraq would

be a preemptive strike. I disagree. In

1991 Saddam Hussein said Iraq would

comply with all United Nations resolutions. Iraq has not done so. Iraq agreed

to eliminate nuclear, chemical and biological weapons programs. Today Iraq

still has weapons of mass destruction and the will to use them.

Hussein agreed to allow unfettered

weapons inspection in this country.

However, Iraq has done everything possible to obstruct those inspections.

Iraq pledged to keep planes out of the

no-fly zone. In the past few years, his

pilots have fired on U.S. and British

troops 1,600 times. They have shot at us 460 times this year alone.

Iraq continues to be a threat to the

area. In 1993 Iraqi troops moved toward

the Kuwaiti border. Iraqi planes continued to fly in the no-fly zone. When

Iraq banned U.N. inspections in 1998,

President Clinton responded by launching missiles into the country.

Was that a preemptive strike? Along

with the British, we dropped more than

600 bombs on Iraqi military targets. We have continued strikes against Iraq air

defense installations and in response to

Iraq shots at our planes in the no-fly zone.

Iraq must be held to the conditions it

agreed to. This Congress authorized action to bring Iraq into compliance in

1998. We must do so again. Until Iraq

complies with the terms of its conditional surrender, there has

been no surrender. The Persian Gulf War is ongoing.

Further, U.S. action against Iraq is

not a preemptive strike, but is our responsibility to bring Saddam Hussein’s

continued plotting of his international

obligations to an end. President Bush

wants the commitment that Congress

stands with him in dealing with Iraq.

I urge that Congress stand with President Bush and support the resolution to

finally end the Gulf War once and for all.