Mr.

Speaker, I rise in opposition to this

amendment. I rise as an educator, a

teacher who for 7 years spent my time

in the schools of Pennsylvania, someone

who desperately does not want to

see war occur.

But I also understand, Mr. Speaker,

that contrary to what we are hearing

on the other side, there are times when

you have to stand up and you have to

be bold and you have to lay down a

marker.

The reason I ran for public office in

the first place was that my hometown

of 5,000 people had become overwhelmed

by the Pagans motorcycle

gang. Sixty-five of them lived in my

neighborhood; all of their drug dealing

was controlled from my town. If I listened

to the other side, maybe to solve

the problem, I should have got them all

in a circle, held hands and we should

have sang Kum Bay Yah. The problem

is, the Pagans do not want to sing Kum

Bay Yah. The Pagans do not deal in reality.

The Pagans were only concerned

with harming people and selling their

drugs.

Saddam Hussein is a pagan. Saddam

Hussein does not want to deal in realistic

terms. We need to give the President

the authority to rally the world

opinion and the U.N. to follow through

on not just the inspections but on disarming

weapons of mass destruction.

I would say to my colleagues on the

other side where were they during the

1990s when 37 times, 37 times, we had

evidence of technology being transferred

from Russia and China to Iraq

and Iran? Where were they when the

administration then only imposed

sanctions four times? Where were they

when nine times we saw chemical and

biological technology being transferred

into Iraq and Iran and we sat on our

hands? Where were they?

Where were they in 1995 when we

caught these going from Russia to

Iraq? These are guidance systems for

missiles, a violation of the NTCR. Because

Clinton did not want to embarrass

Yeltsin we never imposed the required

sanctions.

Mr. Speaker, this did not just happen.

This technology has been flowing

for years. Now we have Saddam

equipped with chemical and biological

and potentially nuclear capability. He

has missiles which he has now enhanced,

the same missile that sent 28

young Americans home in body bags in

1991.

Mr. Speaker, everyone wants peace.

No one wants war, but there are times

where we have to stand up and we have

to lay down a marker and back it up

with force just as I had to do as a

teacher when I ran for mayor and became

mayor of my hometown. The pagans

did not want to listen to reason.

The pagans did not want to respond to

what was in the best interests of the

citizens. If I had listened to the other

side, somehow I would come together

and somehow convince them to change

their ways, and that did not happen.

We fought them with force and we won,

and today my hometown is prospering

because the pagans no longer have

their residence there.

We have to stand together and show

the world with the support of this

President that we will stand up to the

aggression of Saddam, we will stand up

to his use of chemical agents on his

people, we will stand up to his potential

use of biological weapons, and we

will lay the foundation for a more

peaceful world where the Iraqi people

can enjoy the benefits of a new government.