Mr. Speaker, I thank

the chairman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, as I have traveled

through Wyoming, my fellow citizens

have made their feelings very clear on

the threat posed by Saddam Hussein,

the threat posed by his weapons of

mass destruction and the threat posed

by his support of terrorism.

They support the President’s actions

to ensure that Saddam Hussein’s arsenal

of chemical and biological weapons

is totally dismantled, his ties to terrorist

organizations are severed and

the people of Iraq are given a chance to

emerge from Saddam’s oppressive shadow.

The people of Wyoming hope and

pray for peace, but they will not accept

peace at the price of fear.

Wyoming has a proud history of defending

our Nation, from the Peacekeeper

and the Minuteman missile

silos based in our State that helped win

the Cold War, to our many sons and

daughters who made the ultimate sacrifice

in the defense of liberty.

One of the first casualties in our war

on terror was a young man from Cheyenne,

Wyoming. His name was John

Edmunds. Should we let this threat

build and tell John Edmunds’ widow

and his parents, Donn and Mary, that

his death was in vain, that it did not

mean anything? How would we explain

that we lacked the will to finish what

we started? By explaining that the U.N.

was not ready?

Saddam Hussein has long been an

enemy of humanity and freedom. He

has murdered his own people with poison

gas. He has attempted to assassinate

an American president. He heaps

praise on homicide bombers and rewards

their families. Right now, as we

debate in this Chamber, agents work to

provide him with nuclear weapons.

Should we wait a little longer to see if

he gets it right this time?

I understand that some in Congress

are concerned about international support

of his actions. But our first obligation

is not to European governments

like Paris or Berlin. It is to the safety

and the security of the people of the

United States of America.

In an ideal world, we would not have

to go it alone, and I believe we will not

have to go it alone. But thanks to the

likes of Saddam Hussein, this is not an

ideal world. Saddam has made it clear

to the world where he stands. Now Congress

must let the world know where

we stand, against him and with our

President.

Mr. Speaker, I end with a final question:

Ask yourselves, why does Saddam

Hussein seek an atom bomb? The people

of Wyoming know. I know. I believe

we all know.