Mr. Speaker, I

thank the gentleman for yielding me

this time.

Last Tuesday, war was declared, not

just on the United States but on civilized

people everywhere. The American

people were instantly united and

resolved around this challenge. This

resolution this evening is another step

in the long struggle for the American

people to see that their Nation’s leadership

is equal to this challenge.

While I am one who believes that the

American President has these powers

and more, there is a chance here to

jointly define the challenge. There is

an opportunity for Congress and the

administration, people in both parties,

to be very clear about what our challenge

is and what we are going to do.

Our Nation has never quite undertaken

this issue in quite the same way.

We can avoid the problems of the past.

We saw in the Spanish-American War

we had the wrong cause for the wrong

war. During World War II, we saw our

government commit, sadly, acts

against the civil liberties of Japanese-

American citizens. I think we have

learned from those experiences in the

past.

I am hopeful this resolution will be

the first step for more direct actions

that will be inclusive, inclusive here on

Capitol Hill, inclusive of citizens

around the country, inclusive with our

friends and allies abroad, and, indeed,

with some countries with whom we

may not have the warmest of relations;

but we are all united in this effort to

protect the rights of many men and

women in civilized countries everywhere.

I hope this is a beginning of an effort

to show that we Americans are equal

to the challenge and that we are going

to lead it in a way that is going to help

spare other people around the world

from the terror of these dark and sinister

forces.