Mr. Speaker, I thank

the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, whatever form of action

we choose must reflect our democratic

principles and distinguish us from the

mentality of terrorists and destructive

violence. Our actions must pursue a

path towards reducing violence, not escalating

violence. Launching weapons

of mass destruction or collateral attacks

against innocent civilians would

be no different than the terror we already

have had brought upon us. An

eye-for-an-eye mentality is unacceptable.

We are a Nation of civil and

moral values, and we must show the

world that.

These terrorist attacks were clearly

a crime against humanity. What does a

democracy do to punish criminals? We

put them on trial. If found guilty, we

imprison them. The U.S. military action

should be centered on arresting

the responsible parties and the Government

placing the suspects on trial.

That is how we win this. This is how

we should show the world that we are a

humane and democratic Nation. That

is what gives us the moral high ground.

That is what we need to do to help prevent

future attacks.

Future attacks will not be prevented

because terrorists fear our military. To

kill them does not scare them. It is an

honor for them to be killed. But for our

democracy, it is important to rise

above their violent attacks and punish

them with unquestionable moral superiority.

That will vindicate our highest

principles.

Violence is reciprocal in nature.

Peace is also reciprocal. The direction

we take will speak volumes about our

democracy. We must and will defend

our country, and we must and will pursue

and arrest these criminals. We

must do so in a manner that upholds

democratic principles.