Mr. Speaker, Psalm 71

says, ‘‘Bring to a shameful end those

who attack me. Cover with contempt

and scorn those who seek my ruin.’’

On Tuesday, September 11, war was

declared on the United States without

provocation. Tonight we rise to accept

that challenge which we did not seek,

but to which we respond with resolution.

We are prepared to defend our

soil, our institutions and our peaceful

communities.

We did not seek this conflict, but we

stand fully prepared to finish it and restore

justice and peace. To do this, we

are prepared to place in the hands of

our leadership the full power and resources

of the U.S. military and the authority

to challenge the evil that has

descended this week upon our Nation,

wherever it may hide.

We as a Nation have not bent in the

face of adversity, but we have bristled

at the challenge to our freedoms. We

cannot allow this challenge to go unanswered.

I urge my colleagues to fully support,

without qualification, the President

and the men and women in uniform as

the men and women of our Armed

Forces prepare to defend our liberty,

knowing that we realize we are asking

them to sacrifice much and are confident

that they are up to this daunting

task.