Mr. Speaker, as a

former active duty Army officer and

current reservist, the day I have most

dreaded is here. With this resolution

my military colleagues, my West Point

classmates, my friends, will go into

battle and some will pay the ultimate

sacrifice with their lives.

Our Founding Fathers understood

this as they pledged their lives, their

fortune, and their sacred honor.

Mr. Speaker, at the Pentagon yesterday,

a young lieutenant from the Old

Guard asked me, ‘‘Are we going to go

get them, sir?’’

I was mistaken when I said, ‘‘Yes, we

are.’’ I should have said, ‘‘Yes, you

will.’’

What a sobering responsibility to

send our young men and women into

battle. To our Nation I say stand firm,

do not waiver, see it through. To my

colleagues I say, stand firm, do not

waiver, see it through. May God bless

America.