Mr. Speaker, I

thank the gentleman for yielding me

time.

Yesterday I had the grim task of

going to the Pentagon and looking at

the rubble and seeing the grave, the

unexpected grave, of almost 200 of our

citizens buried beneath all the bricks

and mortar and concrete. In this collection

of dust, one of the workers who

had been there for some time asked me,

he said,

I said to him, ‘‘The people back home

are resolved. They are behind the

President. They are united as an American

people to exact a revenge and retaliate,

not for an act that we chose,

but for one that we must respond to.

Otherwise, all Americans, in the airways,

on the highways or in the office

spaces, are at danger. We must complete

the task in front of us.’’

This legislation gives us that opportunity.

It is essential.

When I said that to this worker, he

was somewhat relieved. He joined

hands with me and said, ‘‘Praise the

Lord. We must do this.’’

So, Mr. Speaker, I think this legislation

is appropriate, and I hope that my

colleagues will support it overwhelmingly.