Mr. Speaker, I rise in support

of this resolution. I come here

today in a sobering mood.

This is a somber and solemn moment

for our Nation. We are about to take an

action which will put our Nation’s finest

in harm’s way, but we know what

we have to do to prevent additional

loss of life and to protect our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, when I was carrying a

rifle in the jungles of Vietnam, I

prayed every day that never again

would American young people have to

go to a foreign soil to fight in combat.

But we know what we must do to prevent

additional loss of life and to protect

our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, we are angry, but we

must not react in anger. We must be

calm. We must be patient. Our reaction

must be measured, it must be calculated

and responsible, and it will be

effective.

In our 225-year history, Mr. Speaker,

thousands of Americans have given

their lives to defend freedom. Each

generation has learned that freedom is

not free. There is something about

America that these thugs do not understand,

but they will understand when

we complete our mission. May God

grant wisdom to the President of the

United States and may he grant his

protection and blessing to the young,

great Americans that have to carry out

this mission.