Mr. Speaker, the horrendous

attack we have suffered and our

national response will prove to be a

pivotal event in world history. Our Nation

is now embarked on a fight for

freedom. Some nations will stand up

and be with us, and we may even be

surprised by who our friends are. We

will have many allies, but others will

be against us.

Secretary Powell and others are

working the phones now making key

determinations. I think we all understand

that we can only act decisively.

There can be no pinprick strikes. Terrorism

will only get worse unless we

act to eradicate it now.

Several years ago, during a hearing

on Afghanistan, Members of Congress,

including myself, warned that the war torn

country of Afghanistan was rapidly

evolving into a serious threat to

national security. Many rang the bell.

It went unanswered. We will now have

to act, as we should have acted before,

to root out the terrorist camps and destroy

their infrastructure, including

destroying any governments supporting

them.

President Bush spoke eloquently to

the American people today from the

National Cathedral. I believe that

Americans are willing to follow his

leadership and make the sacrifices

needed to win and survive as the country

we know and love.