Mr. Speaker, I had the

opportunity to travel with the President

to New York today, with other

colleagues from the region, to view the

devastation left in the aftermath of

Tuesday’s tragic events and to meet

with the volunteers and professionals

who have made such a heroic effort to

help the victims and their families.

Tonight, we stand united in sending a

message to the world that we will rise

above this senseless act; that we will

not let the actions of a group of fanatics

destroy our spirit. As we move to

give the President the authority to use

all necessary and appropriate force in

responding to these unprovoked attacks,

let us be sure that we remain

true to our American principles by enacting

a plan which protects the American

people and strengthens the bonds

with our allies.

However, as we raise our powerful

swift sword, let us be mindful of the

fact that the overriding majority of

people who live in these rogue nations

are themselves victims of their governments.

They are being oppressed by

their leaders.

I stand committed to working together

to build an effective anti-terrorism

policy which will make our

country and our world safer so that we

will never have a recurrence of the

nightmare we experienced last Tuesday

again.