Mr. Speaker, along

with President, I, too, have just returned

from ground zero, the site of the

greatest single human tragedy in our

Nation’s history. The towering pyramid

of wreckage upon whose perimeter

in New York City I have just

walked hours ago is a monument, staggering

in its dimensions and horrifying

in its implications.

In that massive tomb, Mr. Speaker,

lie the remains of a still-unknown

number of my fellow New Yorkers and

our fellow Americans. The terrorists

who murdered these people conceive of

themselves as the hand of God and

have executed their wicked judgment

against our people. And what were our

countrymen’s crimes? Their crime was

to go to work in a free Nation. Their

crime was to get on an airplane. Their

crime was to visit one of the greatest

cities in the world. And, in many cases,

Mr. Speaker, their crime was to attempt

to save the lives of other human

beings.

Mr. Speaker, the kind of havoc, murder

and carnage which the terrorists

have inflicted upon our Nation can

only be compared to war. And war, Mr.

Speaker, is what we will give them

back. We know which neighborhoods

these people live in. We know who their

landlords are. We will find out where

they get their paychecks. We will hunt

them down, not only the most obvious

of their public leaders, but also the

most hidden of their private supporters.

Tonight, Mr. Speaker, evil again is

on the march, and we must respond.

And respond we will. We will respond

to the terror that lives in the shadows

and that hides in the dark.

We know, Mr. Speaker, that we have

not borne our final pain; but America

is embarking on a great campaign, one

which will not be easy, one which will

take some time. Like the beginning of

the Cold War, we may not be able to

foresee the end of this conflict; but,

Mr. Speaker, we can be certain of who

the winner will be.