Madam Speaker, our

morning papers carried the grim news

of the makeshift morgue in Kosova

where Serbian authorities displayed

the remains of 51 ethnic Albanians who

died in an attack on their village. Bodies

were proudly displayed by the Serbian

police, showing the world the results

of their destruction of a tiny village

in Kosova. Some of the dead were

women and children, and many were

innocent civilians. The men had been

executed by the police, often in front of

their wives and their children.

Although this news has come as quite

a shock to most of the world, we should

have all seen it coming. For 9 years

Serbia has repressed and harassed the

people of Kosova and dozens have died.

But within the past 10 days this campaign

of terror has escalated into fullscale

violence. Seventy-seven have died

and scores more have been beaten and

jailed and harassed.

We must say strongly and forcefully

that this repression and this violence

cannot continue. The lessons we

learned from Serbian aggression in

Bosnia cannot be forgotten now. We

and our allies cannot sit idly by on the

sidelines. We cannot allow Milosevic to

carry out his campaign of ethnic intimidation,

violating the human rights

of the people of Kosova.

Imposing an arms embargo and sanctions

is the least we can do. Milosevic

must know that any more bloodshed

will not be tolerated. He must also

know that the wishes of the people of

Kosova cannot be ignored.

Madam Speaker, in the past we have

taken to the floor to make the case for

giving the people of Kosova greater

freedom and independence, but today

we come to the floor with a more urgent

purpose, to make a plea for their

lives. We must remember the commitments

that have been made to protect

ethnic Albanians in Kosova. We must

not stray away from those commitments

now, even though it means making

difficult decisions.

We brought peace to the people of

Bosnia only after we showed Milosevic

that his brute force would be countered

with swift and decisive military action.

Now is the time to make sure he knows

that he faces the same consequences if

the violence in Kosova is not put to a

stop.

This crisis has far-reaching implications

but we must also keep it in focus.

The people of Kosova are being brutalized

and we must not allow it to continue.