Mr. Speaker,

I thank the previous gentleman

here. His comments were very compelling

to me.

Mr. Speaker, before I begin my comments

tonight, let me just sincerely

say that I hold in my heart this privilege

of being a Member of the American

family and this United States

Congress to be a priceless gift of God.

And I would ask that my comments tonight

would be heard in that context,

and I would even dare to hope, Mr.

Speaker, that you and the Members of

this body might grant me a modicum

of understanding befitting the conviction

and the gravity that give impulse

to the statements that I make tonight.

Mr. Speaker, the very first responsibility

of human government is to protect

its people. Many times during the

nearly 4 years of the Obama administration,

I have stood on this floor and

have called upon this administration to

address the grave threat posed by

Iran’s nuclear program.

When I first began calling for Iran to

be referred to the Security Council,

they possessed only 157 centrifuges, Mr.

Speaker. But tonight, Iran possesses

more than 9,000. And tonight I stand

here with such a sense of urgency that

I find it difficult to articulate, Mr.

Speaker. I believe we may be facing the

very last window this world will ever

have before it becomes too late to prevent

jihad from becoming armed with

nuclear weapons and shattering the

peace and security of human freedom

as we have known it.

Because this administration has delayed

and sent ambiguous messages to

Iran and the world, as of approximately

3 months ago, Iran reached the point

where it now possesses all the components

necessary to become a nucleararmed

nation.

Mr. Speaker, Iran has the knowledge,

the technical expertise, the equipment,

everything necessary to build a nuclear

warhead. They need no new technology,

no new personnel, no new parts

or resources of any kind from anyone.

All they need now is time and lack of

intervention.

Mr. Speaker, if Iran is allowed to

gain nuclear weapons, it will unequivocally

transform the landscape of

human freedom as we have known it

throughout the world. The world’s primary

financier of terrorism will be

armed with nuclear warheads. A desperate

arms race will rage across the

entire Middle East. Israel will be in

range of nuclear missiles in the hands

of a jihadist enemy who despises them,

is dedicated to their complete annihilation

and capable of obliterating their

entire nation in 15 minutes.

America and our allies will then face

an enemy with the ultimate asymmetric

capability of a nuclear-generated

high-altitude electromagnetic

pulse potentially capable of devastating

our electric grid and the

civilizational architecture it sustains.

Jihadists the world over will have access

to nuclear weapons, and the

world’s children, Mr. Speaker, will

have forever etched in their memory

that moment in history when this government

allowed the hellish shadow of

nuclear jihad to fall across their future.

For almost 4 years, Mr. Speaker, we

have witnessed the same weakness, naivete,

vacillation, ambiguity, and delusional

policy toward radical jihadists

in Iran that once allowed them to hold

56 American hostages for 444 days during

the Carter administration. That

failed approach, that failed understanding

now saturates nearly every

policy corner of the Obama administration

as Iran seeks to gain a nuclear

grip on America’s throat.

As always, any credible threat should

be evaluated by whether an enemy possesses

both the intention and the capacity

to inflict harm. The despotic regime

now governing Iran has been explicitly

clear in its intention toward

the United States. Official military parades

in Iran have, for years, routinely

featured a litany of slogans calling for

death to Israel, death to America.

President Ahmadinejad was speaking

to the whole world when he said:

Does that sound like someone who

thinks he knows something that we

don’t?

Ahmadinejad also said:

Then he added:

Iranian Basij Commander Naqdi said:

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has consistently

denied the existence of the Holocaust,

Mr. Speaker, calling it a myth

or a fabrication. And in the same

breath, he threatens to make it happen

again by repeatedly calling for the destruction

of the Jewish State, for

Israel to be ‘‘wiped off the map.’’ He

has said, point blank:

And just today, Mr. Speaker, just

today, Ahmadinejad called for the annihilation

of Israel again.

Mr. Speaker, the Pentagon estimates

that hundreds of U.S. soldiers have

died, as many as three and four of our

casualties, as a result of Iran supplying

terrorists in Iraq with weapons such as

highly sophisticated explosive form

penetrators designed to destroy American

armor and vehicles. What possesses

us to believe that they would

not do the same with nuclear weapons?

Former Joint Chief of Staff Admiral

Mike Mullen said:

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu called Iran:

Mr. Speaker, can we allow a man like

Ahmadinejad, leading the world’s most

dangerous regime, to be able to disseminate

nuclear weapons to terrorists

and to have his finger on the button

that could launch nuclear missiles targeting

our families and our children?

And how do we negotiate with a nuclear

Iran, as Senator Obama suggested,

when their jihadist ideology

considers Armageddon a good thing?

Mr. Speaker, even without nuclear

weapons, the Iranian regime has remained

relentless and undeterred in its

efforts to harm America, Israel, and

Western interests. In October of last

year, our intelligence interdicted an

Iranian plot to assassinate the Saudi

Arabian Ambassador and to detonate

bombs at both the Saudi Arabian and

the Israeli Embassies right here in

Washington, D.C. Tapes in American

possession show that the Iranians were

unconcerned with ‘‘collateral damage.’’

Now, Mr. Speaker, translated, that

means dead Americans. It also means

that Iran has no fear whatsoever of the

Obama administration.

And now, in recent days, we have

learned that Iran was behind another

barbaric attack, a terrorist attack on

innocent civilians, when its terrorist

proxy, Hezbollah, bombed a Bulgarian

bus, killing five innocent Israeli citizens

and killing a pregnant woman and

including dozens more. Imagine how

emboldened Iran will become if they

are allowed to come into possession of

nuclear weapons.

Specifically, Mr. Speaker, imagine

for a moment the scenario of

Hezbollah, one of Iran’s terrorist proxies,

gaining possession of just two nuclear

warheads and bringing them

across the border into the United

States concealed, say, in bales of marijuana—

this shows you that they can

get them in—when transporting them

into the heart of two different crowded

unnamed cities and then calling and

telling the White House exactly when

and where the first one will be detonated,

and then following through 60

seconds later.

Then imagine them, Mr. Speaker,

calling the White House back and making

demands, which, if they’re not met,

would mean that the second warhead

would also be detonated in a different

unnamed American city. The entire

United States would be held hostage by

terrorist monsters, Mr. Speaker.

Or imagine if those same terrorists

acquired two small cargo ships carrying

mobile launchers with SCUD

missiles from Iran’s existing arsenal

and used them to launch those two

warheads in a coordinated and devastating

high-altitude electromagnetic

pulse attack over the homeland of the

United States.

Well, the fact is, Mr. Speaker, that

Iran is pursuing the means whereby

they could assist groups like Hezbollah

to do exactly these kinds of horrifying

things. The only components they lack

to proceed are the nuclear warheads.

Mr. Speaker, there is no longer a single

rational defense for the argument

that Iran is not pursuing nuclear weapons

capability.

So let me say this, and pray that the

Members of this body and pray that the

President and this Nation understand.

If Iran gains nuclear weapons, they will

give them to terrorists the world over.

And still, as the centrifuges in Iran are

spinning, the Obama administration is

fiddling, and many of the Members of

this body stand by and contemplate.

Have we lost our minds?

Mr. Speaker, President Obama has

allowed Iran to rope-a-dope this administration

in so-called peace talks that

have burned the clock for nearly 4

years of his Presidency. The President

has made stern warnings and then

backed down every time. We’ve endured

five rounds of peace talks, five

different proposals, six different United

Nations resolutions, and more than a

dozen sets of economic sanctions.

The House just voted yesterday on

another Iran sanctions bill that was so

weakened and watered down by Mr.

Obama and his supporters in the Senate

that it is now barely worth the

paper it’s written upon. The administration’s

focus has been on sanctions,

and weak sanctions at that, Mr. Speaker.

And even then, Mr. Obama has

granted waivers to further weaken the

sanctions already in place.

Now, I wonder if this administration

has considered the fact that we have

had economic sanctions against North

Korea for over 60 years, and in recent

decades we have sanctioned them nearly

into starvation. And yet during that

time, they have tested nuclear warheads

twice. And it’s a genie that we

cannot put back in the bottle, Mr.

Speaker.

President Ahmadinejad has said of

economic sanctions:

Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei

said Iran’s nuclear policies would not

change, no matter the pressure. He

said:

Mr. Obama’s own Director of National

Intelligence was asked by the

Senate Intelligence Committee whether

sanctions had any effect on the

course of Iran’s nuclear program. The

answer was simple, Mr. Speaker, ‘‘No,

none whatsoever.’’

I’ve said many times, starting long

ago, that we should have pursued truly

effective sanctions, dissident support,

regime change, and political pressures

to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear-

armed state. But without the

conviction in the minds of the Iranian

leadership that military intervention

will occur if they continue to develop

nuclear weapons, none of these other

approaches will change their minds.

Our greatest hope to prevent military

action against Iran was to make sure

their leaders understood that the free

world would respond militarily before

we allowed them to threaten it with

nuclear weapons.

Unfortunately, Iran’s radical leaders

concluded that Barack Obama simply

lacked the understanding or the resolve

to use military action to prevent

their nuclear weapons development.

And why would they conclude anything

else, Mr. Speaker? Even now, the stated

goal of the Obama sanctions policy

is simply to get Iran back to the negotiating

table where they can waste

even more time and gain even more

valuable advances. And if we do get

them back to the negotiating table,

Mr. Speaker, what compromise can we

seek—maybe that Iran keeps only a

small number of nuclear weapons? No,

Mr. Speaker. If Iran is hell-bent on getting

nuclear weapons, there is no diplomatic

solution.

In the popular revolt in Iran in 2009,

the President could have assisted the

dissidents and the peace-loving, decent

people of Iran, of which there are so

many, to overthrow their oppressors in

the Iranian regime—or at least he

could have spoken up on their behalf

when they were out dying in the

streets to try to bring about regime

change, which, if they had been successful,

could have changed all of this

equation. But the President left them

twisting in the wind.

To call Mr. Obama a bystander in all

of this is to be charitable. The truth is,

Mr. Speaker, he has been nowhere to be

found. Many congressional Republicans

have written and pleaded with this

President numerous times on this vital

issue to absolutely no avail.

The truth is that this President has

waited too long. He has waited so long

that the equation now before us has no

good answer. His policies have only

helped Iran accelerate their nuclear

program. Iran is now tripling its uranium

output, moving enrichment facilities

deep under a mountain near

Qom and restraining the IAEA from

even inspecting weaponization facilities.

Maybe now it is becoming clear why

Israel is so very concerned, because for

them, a nuclear Iran is not just an academic

question—it calls into question

their very survival—and the Obama administration

has now placed Israel into

an almost impossible circumstance.

Israel has watched this President resist

an Israeli strike on nuclear facilities in

Iran more than he has resisted a nuclear

Iran. Israel has listened to Mr.

Obama openly criticize Israel more for

building homes in their capital city

than he has openly criticized Mahmoud

Ahmadinejad for building nuclear

weapons with which to threaten the entire

free world. In fact, they have

watched this administration systematically

scrub references that Jerusalem

is even the capital of Israel.

Consequently, I believe Israel has

known for some time that they can no

longer trust the Obama administration

to act in their best interest.

They know that Mr. Obama has waited

so long that if Israel acts now to defend

their own nation—and all of us incidentally—

that they will suffer a far

more damaging response from the radical

regimes that surround them than

they otherwise would have. Israel

knows that, if they wait much longer

to attack, the Iranian nuclear facilities

may well be beyond their conventional

military capability. Israel desperately

needs America and her greater ability

to attack heavily fortified targets.

They need us, Mr. Speaker, but they

will act without us if they must.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu said simply and clearly,

‘‘One thing I’ll never compromise on,

and that is Israel’s security . . . When

it comes to Israel’s survival, we must

always remain the masters of our

fate.’’

So what is this administration’s

present strategy? ‘‘We’re trying to

make the decision to attack as hard as

possible for Israel.’’ The most disgraceful

part of it is President Obama’s

threat to withhold resupply from Israel

to pressure them into his brand of inaction.

So let me just see if I have this

straight, Mr. Speaker. The President

says, according to his own State Department,

that the world’s greatest

supporter of terrorism, a self-avowed

enemy of America, with an advancing

nuclear weapons program, has committed

to destroy us and Israel and

that the President’s goal is to prevent

Israel—our best and most committed

friend and national ally on this Earth—

from defending themselves. Did I get

that right?

Mr. Speaker, that’s why Israel will

never trust this President with their

national survival.

You see, Israel knows the very inconvenient

truth that, when it comes to a

nuclear Iran, if we are to prevent, we

must preempt. They know that the

choice with Iran is no longer a choice

between the way the world is now and

the way the world might be after a

military strike to prevent them from

gaining nuclear weapons. Rather, the

choice now is between what the world

will be like after a preventative military

strike on Iran or what the world

will be like after Iran gains nuclear

weapons.

So, Mr. Speaker, we should not deceive

ourselves. When the head of

Israeli intelligence tells the prime minister

that Iran is entering into that

‘‘zone of immunity’’ where Israel will

no longer have the conventional capacity

to prevent Iran from gaining nuclear

weapons, Israel will act.

They will act knowing that many in

the world will condemn them. They

will act knowing that they will be

blamed for any radiation releases from

Iran’s nuclear facilities that might result.

They will act knowing that thousands

of Iranian, Hamas, and Hezbollah

rockets and missiles will fall upon the

cities of their tiny nation in retaliation.

They will act knowing that it is

now extremely difficult for them to

succeed.

But, Mr. Speaker, Israel will act because

they are students of history, and

they will not be made to walk silently

into the gas chambers again.

They will act because they know that

whatever the consequences for their actions

will be that they will pale in significance

compared to what the consequences

would be for them and for

the whole world if the jihadist Government

of Iran were to gain nuclear

weapons.

And, if and when they do act, the

Obama administration will owe an

apology to the whole world for ignoring

this grave reality for so long, but Israel

will especially deserve an apology—an

apology from this administration for

leaving them with no choice but to act

on behalf of all of us.

Mr. Speaker, now, with all of the

things I’ve said tonight, there seems to

be a profound new irony upon us. This

administration finally seems to recognize

that they have, indeed, waited too

long. This administration is finally realizing

that Israel can no longer stand

around and wait. It is also beginning to

understand if Israel is forced to strike

Iran’s nuclear facilities alone or if Iran

tests a nuclear weapon before the November

6 election, that the American

people and the world will damn the

Obama administration for their breathtaking

vacillation. Under such scenarios,

the administration very likely

sees the chances for Mr. Obama to be

reelected as virtually zero.

So it has occurred to me, Mr. Speaker,

that the Obama administration may

have at last found sufficient rationale

to move decisively against Iran’s nuclear

weapons program. The President

knows that, in times of military action,

the American people often rally

around their President. Consequently,

in spite of the fact that it has blatantly

ignored the national security

implications of Iran’s nuclear program,

it will now not surprise me at all if this

administration launches an attack on

Iran’s nuclear facilities before the November

elections to protect itself politically,

even if it is done in concert

with Israel to make it appear less politically

motivated.

While I believe the American people

will see such an action for what it is, if

a Presidential campaign will finally

motivate this administration to get serious

about our national security and

Iran’s nuclear program, then so be it,

Mr. Speaker. It would still be far better

for the administration to do that than

to stand idly by and force the tiny

state of Israel, our closest friend and

ally on this Earth, to undertake such a

monumental task alone, with all the

odds against them and facing such

crushing consequences whether they

succeed or fail.

But it didn’t have to be this way.

There was a time when Iran’s nuclear

weapons ambitions could have been arrested

with far less cost.

The President has waited too long.

Mr. Speaker, President Ronald

Reagan gave an address in 1983 when

the world faced a similar threat in the

growing strength and nuclear ambition

of the Soviet Union. Mr. Reagan said:

Mr. Speaker, there were those in 1938

who deemed the ambitions of Adolf

Hitler and the Third Reich a giant misunderstanding.

The free nations of the

world once had opportunity to address

the insidious rise of the Nazi ideology

in its formative years when it could

have been dispatched without great

cost, but they delayed, and the result

was atomic bombs falling on cities, 50

million people dead worldwide, and the

swastika shadow nearly plunging the

planet into Cimmerian night.

Mr. Speaker, let the world’s free people

resolve once and for all, for the

sake of our children and for future generations,

that we of this generation

will not stand by and watch a similar

dark chapter of history be repeated on

our watch.

God help this administration to wake

up, and God help us all as Americans to

be awake in this destiny year for our

beloved country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance

of my time.