Mr. Speaker, I rise

today to emphatically encourage the

United Nations to take a strong stand

against North Korea.

Last Tuesday, North Korea shocked

the world by test-firing missiles, including

a long-range Taepodong-2, that

could one day be capable of reaching

the western United States. Japanese

and United States satellite photography

have shown movement at North

Korean bases that indicate preparations

for even further missile launches.

Mr. Speaker, the carrot approach of

previous administrations has done

nothing to deter Kim Jong-il’s erratic

and irresponsible behavior.

In 1994, North Korea agreed to freeze

and ultimately dismantle its existing

plutonium-based nuclear program.

However, in December 2002, we learned

the North Korean regime was pursuing

a nuclear weapons program based on

enriched uranium in violation of that

agreement.

Mr. Speaker, we must learn from our

previous efforts. We cannot stake our

national security on meaningless

agreements with an unpredictable and

maniacal dictator.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me

in imploring the United Nations to

condemn North Korea’s actions as a

threat to stability around the globe.