Mr. Speaker, this week,

all eyes will be upon us as we debate

the use of force in Syria. This decision

is not one that should be made lightly,

as ultimately there are many factors

to be weighed.

Make no mistake that what is happening

in Syria is truly a human tragedy.

That nation has been torn apart

by civil war. It is without a doubt that

Assad is not a friend or ally of ours.

But things are very complicated. A

large number of those who oppose the

Assad regime are affiliated with al

Qaeda. In the case of Syria, Assad, and

the rebels, it cannot be said that the

enemy of my enemy is my friend. In

this dangerous civil war, the enemy of

our enemy is still and will always be

our enemy.

It is this dynamic which has led to

the overwhelming response of people

throughout my district and our Nation

to say without an imminent threat to

national security, without a plan,

without a goal, without unified international

support from our allies, we

must stay out of Syria.