Mr. Speaker, President

Clinton recently pledged to Dr.

Ibrahim Rugova, President of the Republic

of Kosova, that the U.S. would

not allow another Bosnia to occur in

Kosova. Sadly, another Bosnia has already

begun.

Serbian strongman Slobodan

Milosevic is now using the same ethnic

cleansing tactics in Kosova that he

used in Bosnia, which resulted in

200,000 deaths, 2 million homeless, and

billions of dollars in damage to the infrastructure

and economy of Bosnia.

The grim specter of Bosnia can now

be seen in Kosova and along its border

with Albania as tens of thousands of

refugees are streaming across the border.

Does that not sound all too familiar?

Refugees tell horror stories of villages

that have been attacked by the

Serbs and emptied of all Albanian residents.

Innocent civilians have been

massacred. At least 10 villages have

been completely razed and thousands

have been made homeless in this latest

crackdown by the Milosevic regime.

These events of recent days were preceded

by a massive series of Serbian

offensives that have killed more than

200 people since the new wave of aggression

began in late February. With

further cruelty, Belgrade has restricted

the supply of humanitarian assistance

to defenseless men, women and children,

much of it provided by the United

States through Mercy Corps International

and other international NGOs.

The Serbs have cut telephone lines to

the region. They have set up roadblocks

to seal off the area. They have

prevented international journalists and

human rights observers access to the

villages. Milosevic is enforcing his own

brand of Serbian apartheid on the 90

percent Albanian majority in Kosova.

Incredibly, this terrorism by the

Serbs has occurred at the very moment

President Rugova and strongman

Milosevic have been engaged in weekly

meetings arranged by Ambassador

Holbrooke to negotiate a so-called

peaceful settlement to the Kosova crisis.

Mr. Speaker, the killing in Kosova

must stop. I have been to the region to

see the situation for myself and I have

met with President Rugova to hear

firsthand a report on the current intolerable

circumstances.

President Clinton must bring greater

U.S. efforts to bring the massacre to a

standstill as a first step toward resolving

this bloody conflict that threatens

to destabilize the entire region. The

U.S., because of their indecisive leadership

and weak demands, are seen as ineffective

here even by our allies.

The Contact Group of nations has

failed to impress Milosevic with the seriousness

of its demands, which tragically

have been stated without the

muscle to back them up and consequently

have been totally ignored.

Mr. Speaker, the only strong leadership

that is going to come must come

from the presidency. We must have

U.S. leadership that will force the

Milosevic regime to end its siege of

Kosova and we must stop the killing

now. Humanity cannot allow another

Bosnia to occur in Kosova.