Mr. Speaker, today I

rise with a heavy heart. I would like to

talk about the budget, saving social security,

saving Medicare, but I think

the crisis in Kosovo demands our attention.

The Constitution says, ‘‘We, the people

of the United States, in order to

form a more perfect union, establish

justice, ensure domestic tranquility,

provide for the common defense, promote

the general welfare, and secure

the blessings of liberty to ourselves

and our posterity, do ordain and establish

this Constitution of the United

States.’’

Article 1, section 8, says ‘‘The Congress

shall have the power to declare

war.’’ I wonder when we are going to

accept responsibility for our actions

and debate a declaration of war when

we are about ready to bomb a sovereign

state. If we want to do that, let us accept

our responsibilities, and let us do

it as a body.

Until that time, let us not hide behind

the curtains or the skirts of the

President of the United States under

the War Powers declaration. Let us get

some guts and let us fight for freedom.