Mr. Speaker, I

appreciate the gentleman’s courtesy in

permitting me to speak on this resolution,

and I appreciate the gentleman

from New Jersey bringing it forward.

I think it is important that we are

stepping forward to call what is happening

in this troubled country by

what it is, genocide. As has been referenced,

we have already lost over

30,000 people. The best estimate is that

we are looking at a third of a million

people if everything goes right, and

sadly, the path that we are on today is

a million or more.

I hope that this will be an important

first step for us to acknowledge, as the

gentleman from New Jersey (Mr.

PAYNE) put forth, that this is different

than when we stood by 10 years ago in

Rwanda or a dozen years ago in Bosnia;

or sadly, the United States was not

forthcoming a generation ago in Europe

during World War II. But I think

that experience has chastened us and, I

hope, has sensitized us; and I hope the

language that is put forward here is

just the beginning. By all means, call

it by what it is. By all means, move

forward with the United Nations.

But I would hope that when we think

of having spent $200 billion in round

numbers in Iraq for actually a threat

that has proven to be far less, that we

can put forward the same sort of energy

and interest in uniting the world

community in making sure that we implement

the extreme diplomacy that is

necessary, that we use the power of

this country from military to diplomacy

to the moral suasion that we are

capable of to make sure that we tip the

balance and move it in the right direction.

I commend all my colleagues that are

here this evening, late in the evening,

for sharing their concerns and trying

to craft a bipartisan approach. But I

hope that this is but one of many steps

of this nature to highlight, and that we

will continue to spotlight and speak for

as long as we are faced with this problem.

We cannot ignore it, to let it slip

away.