Mr. Speaker, when the

USS *Maine* was detonated in the harbor

of Havana, Cuba, and the United States

of America believed Spain to be responsible,

we did not pass a resolution in

this body authorizing the use of force

for a regime change in Spain. We declared

war on Spain and we won.

When Pearl Harbor was decimated

through a dastardly attack by the imperial

government and military of

Japan, we did not pass a resolution authorizing

a regime change in this Congress.

We declared war on Japan.

Now, in the wake of 9/11, when there

is enormous circumstantial evidence to

suggest complicity with al Qaeda and

Iraq, we are about to debate a resolution

authorizing military force for a regime

change, seemingly unwilling to

use the term ‘‘declare war,’’ discharging

our constitutional duty.

Mr. Speaker, can a Nation that does

not possess the courage to use a word

possess the will to wage a war? If the

facts are there to prove complicity

with terrorism and al Qaeda, and even

with 9/11, the nation of Iraq, let us do

no less than our duty. Let us pass a

resolution to declare war.