Mr. Speaker, the

aftershocks of the Egyptian revolution

are being felt throughout the Middle

East. The hunger for freedom has gone

viral and reenergized the movement for

freedom in the country of Iran. No

country in that region presents more of

a threat to the national security of the

United States, Israel, and the world

than the ‘‘tyrant from the desert’’ and

his regime in Iran, Ahmadinejad.

Ahmadinejad says that his first nuclear

missile will be sent to Tel Aviv,

Israel. He hates the United States; he

hates Israel, and he has been determined

to destroy the both of us. We

must believe his words are more than

just rhetoric. For decades, the regime

has managed to quash but not eliminate

a vibrant opposition movement.

In 2009, that frustration erupted for

the whole world to see. Thousands of

people, mainly young people, marched

defiantly in the streets, protesting the

fraudulent election of Ahmadinejad.

The ‘‘little tyrant’’ is a rogue President

and an illegitimate President, and

the response from the regime was brutal.

Police on motorbikes ran over

protestors, fired tear gas, beat them

with batons, tortured them, shot them,

and over a hundred protestors were

murdered in the 2 weeks that followed

the election. But to the surprise of the

world and the little tyrant from the

desert, the flame of freedom was not

quashed in Iran.

During that fight for self-determination,

our administration was somewhat

passive, believing we could work with

that tyrant. But Ahmadinejad does not

want peace. He’s already declared war

on his own people and wants war with

the West. In Iran there’s no freedom of

expression and association, no freedom

from arrest, detention or torture, and

women are denied basic human rights.

But there’s a remarkable thing, Mr.

Speaker, about repression: The more a

tyrant tries to hold on to power by

cracking down on the people, the faster

he loses grip on that society.

So, inspired by the events in Egypt,

tens of thousands of young people once

again took to the streets in Iran on

Monday to protest the rogue government.

But the dictator is fighting

back, and he will continue to do so.

But the protestors want freedom in

their country. Communication has

been cut. However, we are seeing communication

from Iran through videos

and YouTube and tweets from those

Iranian people. The judiciary in Iran

has already arrested 1,500 people. Two

nonviolent protestors have been murdered,

and the rogue parliament, along

with the henchman Ahmadinejad has

called for the hanging of corrupt opposition

leaders. But the people of Iran

still continue to protest.

The Iranian people—the Iranian resistance

movement—is here to stay,

whether Ahmadinejad likes it or not,

and they deserve the same chance as

every other freedom-loving people to

rule their own country. The Iranians

are freedom-loving people, and they deserve

that basic human right that all

peoples have of self-determination.

Today, we support—I support—the

Iranians in Iran to take over their own

country and to remove the dictator

that is oppressing them. This fight will

be difficult, but we hear the cries of the

Iranian people. And those of us in Congress

that support them, we are not

going away any more than the Iranian

people are going away, because they

have the basic right of self-determination

in their country.

And that’s just the way it is.