Mr. Speaker, there

is a civil war raging in Syria. No question

about it, President Assad is a bad

guy. He hates Israel and he hates his

own people. The humanitarian situation

in Syria is dire. I have been to

Syrian refugee camps in Turkey and

seen firsthand the devastation of this

war. In one camp I went to, there were

150,000 Syrians in Turkey fleeing from

the devastation of war.

However, there are numerous rebel

groups trying to remove Assad from

power. Who exactly are these rebels?

We really don’t know. But we do know

the most powerful among them is al

Nusra, an affiliate of al Qaeda. These

extremists on both sides are killing

each other in the name of religion, and

the people of Syria are caught in the

middle.

Lining up on President Assad’s side

are the nations of Russia and Iran;

also, the terrorist group Hezbollah, of

course, sponsored by Iran. Lining up on

the so-called rebels’ side are Qatar,

Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and numerous

rebel groups from patriots to criminals

to al Qaeda and outside mercenaries.

For 2 years, the United States has

just ignored the situation; but now,

suddenly, the administration has decided

it’s time to get involved. The administration’s

answer: send the rebels

American guns. Send the rebels American

guns? Blindly traffic American

guns into Syria and, I guess, hope for

the best.

Does this sound familiar, Mr. Speaker?

We’ve tried this before. We’ve seen

this song and dance in Libya and even

in Mexico, our neighbor. This administration

is gun-happy to give guns

away. In Libya, the administration

armed the rebel group to oust Muammar

Qadhafi, another bad guy. Well,

where are those guns now? Were they

used in Benghazi? Who knows. The administration

is still silent on Benghazi.

Those guns are scattered all over the

Middle East and in north Africa.

Were they used in Algeria? Remember,

Mr. Speaker, in Algeria there were

Americans working at an energy plant

there, along with other citizens from

other countries. Two Americans were

killed in that attack. Were they also

used in Mali? Who knows. Only time

will tell. And who has died because

these weapons end up in the wrong

hands every time we give American

guns away to rebel groups?

By providing weapons to radical sectors

fighting against Assad, we’re really

taking sides in somebody else’s war.

We’re also arming some radicals who

seek to destroy us, like al Qaeda, who

is fighting on the side of rebels. More

weapons will only escalate this conflict.

More people are going to die because

the United States picks sides.

But Syria and Libya are not the first

time this administration blindly trafficked

weapons to terrorists. Let’s go

back to our own hemisphere. Let’s talk

about our neighbor, Mexico. Do you remember

Operation Fast and Furious?

We still haven’t gotten answers on that

scandal.

In an effort to help fight the drug

cartels, the administration sent thousands

of weapons to Mexico without

even telling the Mexican Government.

And who got those weapons? The drug

cartels.

Of course these guns ended up in the

hands of the terrorists—the narcoterrorists—

and resulted in the death of

at least two or three Americans and

hundreds of Mexican nationals. Another

botched gunrunning operation

sponsored by the U.S. Government.

Too bad we don’t learn from history

and stop this nonsense of furnishing

guns to groups in somebody else’s

country. Did we implement universal

background checks on the violent

criminals we armed in Syria, Libya and

Mexico? Yeah, right. Is this the new

foreign policy of the United States—

international weapons trafficking?

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, this

administration is on a tireless crusade

to ban guns in the United States. Mr.

Speaker, why is the White House so determined

on disarming Americans

while arming known potential terrorists,

bandits, drug lords and mercenaries?

Ironic, don’t you think? But

that’s a different issue for a different

day.

And I ask this question: What is the

national security interest of the United

States to be involved in Syria, in somebody

else’s civil war? There is none.

This is not our war.

Mr. Speaker, this is a regional religious

war that we should not be involved

in. It’s a war between the

Sunnis and the Shias. These two religious

groups have been fighting each

other since the year 630, and now we’re

involved in this regional, religious war.

What’s next? Is the administration

going to propose and implement a nofly

zone? Well, if this occurs, I believe

the President must ask for congressional

approval under the War Powers

Act.

Almost 100,000 Syrians are dead.

No question, the U.S. should help with humanitarian

aid.

The U.S. should work for a political solution,

not a military solution.

But the Administration’s policy seems to be

traffic guns to third world countries and subversives

and hope for the best.

However, recent history has shown this is a

bad idea.

This is a dangerous foreign policy.

What area of the world is next for our gun

running government?

Wait and see.

And that’s just the way it is.