Mr. Speaker, I want to give some perspective on an

issue that is, I think, very near and dear to every American's heart,

as it is in Kosovo today also.

I would like to give the Speaker a little perspective. First of all,

according to Henry Kissinger, and I agree, Rambouillet was a very poor

foreign policy. It was an agreement only between Albania and the United

States in which the United States knew, in no uncertain terms, that

Serbia would never give up Kosovo itself. Any history student would

know that.

We have spent $16 billion in Bosnia to date; Somalia cost us billions

of dollars; Haiti cost us billions; $4 billion times the four strikes

in Iraq, the Sudan, Afghanistan. Our troops are deploying 300 percent

above the highest level in Vietnam but yet we are doing it with about

half the force. Enlisted retention in our own military is below 23

percent; pilots, 30 percent.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff said we are $150 billion short. We cannot

buy spare parts. We do not even have basic bullets. Top gun, 14 of 23

aircraft are down; 18 for engines; 137, parts.

Kosovo, and this is according to General Clark, I was with General

Clark just days ago and I said I want to know how many sorties the

United States is flying. Mr. Speaker, General Clark said, and this is

accurate to the sortie, 75 percent of all strikes in Kosovo are being

flown by the United States. That does not include the B-2s, the

tankers, the support aircraft like C-17s and C-130s. That brings it up

to 82 percent.

We are dropping 90 percent of all the weapons, so we are paying for

over 90 percent. That does not even include our ships. That does not

include our manpower over there. My point is that it should be the

other way around.

The reason given by General Clark is that other nations do not have

the stand-off capability that we do so we are having to fly 90 percent

of this stuff, 82 percent of it and 90 percent of the ordnance.

My point is that the supplemental that we are going to ask for, if

NATO is a fair share organization, then NATO ought to pay the United

States between $10 and $20 billion for our supplemental and not come

out of our taxpayers' dollars.

Let me give you another perspective. Before the bombing in Kosovo,

there were only 2,000 deaths. Each death is important, but in

perspective there were only 2,000 deaths attributed in Kosovo that

whole year. One-third were Serbs and other nationalities besides the

Albanians, but after the bombing look at the number of deaths. We have

just killed 70 Albanians in a convoy trying to get out of Kosovo. NATO

has killed 70 Albanians in an air strike. Look at the million refugees

that these air strikes have caused that would not be there unless we

had bombed Kosovo.

The Croatians executed 10,000 Serbs in 1995 in Croatia. They deported

and fled over 250,000 Serbs as refugees. Indonesia has killed millions;

Turkey, thousands; India with the Sikhs; China, thousands with Tibet.

Yet, we are in a mass war where there is less than 2,000 deaths, and

over a third of those by the people we are claiming to bomb.

The Pentagon, confirmed by Secretary Cohen, that the Pentagon did not

want to execute just air strikes. The Pentagon told the President that

they would not work alone, that they would exacerbate the problems,

cause refugees, kill a lot of people. The United States would have to

pay for a lot of it and unless we put ground troops in there the goals

were not attainable. Yet, the President says no ground troops, which I

am opposed to also.

Why is he opposed to it? Because the Germans balked, the Italians

balked. In World War II, Germany had 700,000 troops in Kosovo. The

Chechens, with one half the force that Milosevic has, killed those

Germans. General Shelton just 2 days ago said that this is the easiest

place to defend and the most difficult to attack in the world.

We do not belong there, Mr. Speaker. This is Clinton's war. Clinton

ought to get out of it.