Mr. Speaker, this is the right time to have this debate.

I too wish it would be longer, but this body needs to be heard on this

issue.

I served in the Air Force during the Vietnam War. At that point we

had one

nation trying to overtake another nation, and this country thought it

was worth the effort to stop it. After 10 years and 58,000 American

lives, this body stopped the Vietnam War on a rider on an appropriation

bill.

We now have a dispute in the Balkans, and it is not one nation

against another. There are two bad actors in this. Last year, 2,000

people died in this area. Not nearly as many deaths as those that died

in Sierra Leone in January of this year alone, but of the 2,000 that

died, nearly a third were Serbs and two-thirds were Kosovars.

There are two bad actors in this war. I do not know why we are there.

If we are there, why are we not in the Sierra Leone or the Sudan where

in 10 years, 2 million people were exterminated in ethnic cleansing? I

do not understand our end game, if there is one, and I do not know what

victory is. But this body ought to say no. This body ought to say

enough of the adventurism. We are the only institution that can declare

war, and this administration has admitted that it is at war. This body

ought to be heard.

I think the gentleman from California (Mr. Campbell) is doing exactly

the right thing to raise precisely the right issue, and I hope that

this body will pass this rule. I too hope that we will strike section

6; I supported the gentleman from Massachusetts last night in his

effort to do so. I think that is a mistake. But after we strike that, I

hope we will pass this rule and be heard on this issue. It is exactly

the right thing to do.