Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this

time.

We should not be deploying ground troops of the United States armed

forces in Yugoslavia until Congress has authorized such a deployment.

That is what we did in Desert Storm, that is what the War Powers Act

contemplates, and that is what we should do. I do not know today how I

would vote on such an authorization.

I believe that we should be very cautious about getting ourselves

into a ground war in the Balkans, and we should recall the lessons of

the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution and not pass a Gulf of the Adriatic

Resolution that provides an open-ended and unconditional authorization

for the use of ground forces. But we should also keep a ground troops

option open in case the air campaign proves unsuccessful, the ethnic

cleansing continues, and all our NATO allies agree that ground forces

could achieve our military and political objectives.

I will vote for the resolution offered by the gentleman from

Connecticut (Mr. Gejdenson) to authorize the present air campaign in

Yugoslavia. It is underway, it has had some success, and we should

support it.

I will oppose the removal of our military forces from their positions

in connection with the present air campaign, because I believe the

President and NATO need to be given a chance to try to stop the

bloodshed and ethnic cleansing.

I will also oppose the proposed declaration of war the gentleman from

California offers us, because I believe that such a step would

needlessly inflame an already tense political situation in Europe and

our relations with Russia. But while I will oppose the gentleman's

resolutions, I want to compliment him on bringing this debate to the

House floor. It is the most important power that Congress has and it is

critical that all our voices be heard.