I thank the gentleman from Mississippi for yielding me

this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in very strong opposition to H.R. 1569. I believe

that this restriction, which is in essence a limitation on spending, is

premature. I think the President has conducted this air campaign in a

very vigorous, forthright way. I think all of us recognize the problem

with ethnic cleansing and what the Serbian forces have been doing in

Kosovo. I think to put this restriction, and the language, by the way,

I think is very poorly drafted.

I urge my colleagues to look at the second section which talks only

about limited rescue opportunities, only in Yugoslavia. What if we need

to use ground forces somewhere else? I just think this is premature. I

would hope that if the President makes a decision that we are going to

have to use ground forces, that in fact Congress would vote on it at

that time, but not at this time. This is premature.

And so I urge our colleagues to reject this and to support the Senate

resolution that was passed with bipartisan support, carefully worked

out, that basically expresses our support for the ongoing air campaign.

I have had an opportunity to go over to the Pentagon to see how the air

war is doing. It is becoming very effective. And so I think there is a

lot of hand wringing here that is premature. I think we ought to give

the air war additional time to work. I think we are weakening Mr.

Milosevic. I think there is still a prospect that we may achieve our

objective.

To have this Congress divided and not have a bipartisan effort here

to find common ground I think is extremely disappointing. I think, to

the

majority, there was a bipartisan effort in the other body, I think

there needs to be a bipartisan effort here to support our troops and to

support the air war in Yugoslavia.