Mr. Speaker, there are many murky things about the

situation we now face in Kosovo. One, however, is not murky. What is

not even remotely unclear is the fact that we are not there for the

often heard cause of stopping ethnic cleansing. That is the one thing

about which I am absolutely sure. That is not the reason we are there.

We can debate, and we will debate at length, the variety of reasons

we may be there. It may have something to do with legacies and all the

rest of that, but it has nothing to do with ethnic cleansing, else we

would be in at least a dozen countries around this world where the

situation is 10 times worse. Certainly we can start naming them now. At

the top of the list is the Sudan.

There were 2,000 people dead when we went into Kosovo to begin with,

a third of them Serbs. We have already ruined too many lives there in

Kosovo, we have done too much damage; too many people are dead as a

result of the actions we have taken. It is time to withdraw our forces.

When we have dug ourselves a pit, the best thing to do now is stop

digging and get out.