Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues who

express grave doubts about the conduct of Operation Allied Force in

Yugoslavia. I am deeply troubled that the administration has started

our country down the path of only bad options.

The debate before us illustrates the inability of the War Powers

Resolution to effectively deal with post-Cold War realities. In many

respects, the War Powers Resolution is a tool of a bygone era.

Mr. Speaker, there are numerous Kosovo type operations in this

country's future. These operations require significant military

resources and challenge our country's ability to meet the primary

objective of our national security strategy. This is nothing new.

Congress has not formally declared war since World War II, and yet

American troops have since fought and died around the world in numerous

hostilities. The framework of the War Powers Resolution has not allowed

Congress a voice in the commitment of troops in these engagements.

While the United States may be the world's superpower, we cannot be

the world's police force. Our military is simply not prepared to do so.

If anything, this fumbling foreign policy escapade should alert this

body that we must reflect upon the failings of the current process by

which we are forced to deal with these types of military operations. In

the near future Congress should work to improve the process by which we

consider and debate these critical issues to our national security.

Today, I would ask my colleagues to pay close attention to this

debate and to keep in mind the state of our military. Congress's role

is not limited simply to the declaration of war. It is imperative that

we look closely at where we commit our troops and ensure that our

military is prepared for such commitments.

I do not believe that Kosovo is the kind of conflict where we should

be committing our troops. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to oppose the

resolution to declare war.