Mr. Speaker, I am against this declaration of war, as I am

sure practically everyone in this Chamber is.

The origin of many European parliaments was when the leaders of a

country got together, formed an organized body and reined in the king

who was engaged on various adventures. That is, in a sense, what we are

trying to do here today.

If the Europeans have a European problem, they ought to be making the

decision and they ought to be sending their own ground troops.

Russia should be deeply involved. It has not been included. There is

only one other superpower in the world; that is Russia. They should be

tied to the West, and they should be helpful in this particular matter.

If the North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO] is to keep Europe at

peace, then Russia should be a member.

The Serbs cannot move north, that is NATO territory; and if they move

south toward Greece, that is NATO territory, and that would be one

sovereign nation invading another, and that would be appropriate for

NATO to take action and defend Greece.

I include for the Record, Mr. Speaker, portions of the speech

Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger made back in 1984. He was an

outstanding Secretary and a very wise man. He developed six major

criteria which should be met when we use U.S. combat forces abroad.

In brief, there is no vital United States interest in what is going

on in Kosovo. What is going on in Kosovo is tragic, but it is not at

the level of defending vital interests of the United States by making

war in the area. Kosovo should receive humanitarian aid.

I think all of us abhor Milosevic. He should be tried as an

international war criminal, and, if convicted, a bounty ought to be

offered for him.

The Balkans are a quagmire of ethnic and religious rivalries that we

cannot solve alone. Let us remember Dien Bien Phu, when many of his key

advisers pressured President Eisenhower to send our armed forces to

bail out the French. He was a wise President; he turned them down.

There was not vital interest of the United States at stake.

Eisenhower had 800 advisers in Vietnam. He told them not to get

involved in the battle--simply train the soldiers. He was a wise

President.

John F. Kennedy was not a wise President when it came to Vietnam. He

put 16,000 people there and told them to get engaged and shoot. Lyndon

Baines Johnson was not a wise President when it came to foreign

affairs. LBJ upped the ante to 550,000 American troops. They were

heavily engaged. We lost that war. There was no vital interest for our

country.

During the Bush administration the United States put an arms embargo

on sending arms to Bosnia. That was the wrong decision. If the Bosnians

had weapons, they could have protected their country and its people.

The Albanians should have arms to protect their people.