Mr. Speaker, I do not think we should

flinch either, and I do not see how denying any authority to continue

this is nonflinching. I want to pay tribute to the gentleman from

California (Mr. Campbell) whose efforts forced this House against its

will to stop hiding.

There were 2 aspects to this issue. One, what is the policy choice in

Yugoslavia? It is an unhappy choice. I believe that the policy of

continued bombing in conjunction with our allies, and it is awkward to

carry out an allied policy, but it is better than an unilateral one.

When we accept the strength of an alliance, we take constraints with

it. I think that is the best policy in a set of bad choices.

The House now has to make a choice, and it is inappropriate for this

great elected body of representatives, when confronted with a difficult

choice, to say: None of the above. But if we vote down this resolution,

that is what we are doing. Thanks to the efforts and the integrity of

the gentleman from California who insisted we face up to our

responsibilities, we voted. We voted not to pull out.

Now 139 people who voted not to pull out can consistently vote

against this. But are we to be told that there are dozens, maybe 100,

125 Members who do not think we should pull out but simply do not want

to be blamed for staying in? We had one comment say:

Oh, well, we should not take ownership of this.

That is an inappropriate attitude for people who are elected. The

draft does not work here. We all ran for this job, and a lot of it is

fun, and sometimes it is not, and having to help ratify this unpleasant

choice is one of those moments when it is the least fun, the least

attractive. But we do not have the option of simply copping out.

Members could be against this, they can be for it, but they cannot vote

for none of the above. They cannot conscientiously say it is too hard,

I will vote over here, and I will vote over there.

I am delighted that we have a chance here to pass a concurrent

resolution to have a combined policy, House and Senate, which says we

support this current military policy. Members may be opposed to the

military policy, and then they should have voted for the resolution

offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. Campbell), or they can be

in favor of it and they should vote for this. But punting is not an

option; it is not football season. We cannot simply say:

Let this one pass from us.

I voted for the resolution offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania

(Mr. Goodling). I voted for it because I do think before we commit

ground troops, this House ought to vote. But I must say I have some

second thoughts about putting that authority into the hands of a group

of people, some of whom say, ``Gee, can I duck the hard one?'', and

that is what we are talking about now. If people thought the policy was

wrong and we should pull out, they had a chance to vote that way.

Mr. Speaker, I hope people will not simply try to duck a tough issue

and will vote to ratify the least unpalatable choice.