Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution to

authorize United States involvement in the NATO air operations against

Slobodan Milosevic's military force.

It is both in our strategic and humanitarian interests to end the

vicious ethnic cleansing campaign that Slobodan Milosevic is pursuing

in Kosovo. His actions have threatened the stability of southern

Europe, jeopardized our efforts to maintain peace in other parts of the

Balkans and unleashed a flood of refugees into poor and underequipped

nations in the region. It is clear, Mr. Speaker, that we must take

action to end this tragedy.

A couple of weeks ago I traveled to Brussels with Secretary Cohen. I

met with General Clark and the delegates of our NATO allies. The

resolve that every person and every country involved in this operation

showed then was reinforced this past weekend in Washington.

The truth is, our air campaign is working. We are knocking out the

infrastructure of Mr. Milosevic's military and isolating his troops in

Kosovo. If we continue to take out the four corners of his fighting

machine, his whole house of cards will come crashing down.

We must make clear to Mr. Milosevic that the bombing campaign will

not cease until he withdraws his troops and allows the citizens of

Kosovo to return to a life of peace and autonomy. I urge my colleagues

to support this resolution.