Mr. President, I wish

to speak on a couple of issues that concern

me greatly in the arena of foreign

policy.

First, a couple of comments concerning

the administration’s recent policies

in Kosovo. I am very, very concerned

that the administration, in the negotiations

in France, is making a mistake.

I hope that is not the case. I wish

that is not the case. Maybe I don’t

have all the information the administration

has. But I have been to Kosovo.

I have been in Pristina. I have met

with Mr. Milosevic. I do happen to

think he is a tyrant. I think he has

conducted a lot of atrocities in Bosnia

and Kosovo against people—right now

the Albanians in Kosovo. I think he is

a bad guy. I think the international

community needs to stand up to him.

But I am very, very concerned about

the administration’s policy, or objective,

where they are talking about

committing 4,000 U.S. troops out of a

contingency of 28,000, where they are

sending our military in without a militarily

achievable objective and without

an exit strategy. I am really concerned

because I think we are going to be

there for a long, long time. It seems

like we are duplicating what happened

in Bosnia, which the administration

calls an outstanding success. But it

looks to me like we are stuck in Bosnia.

We are spending billions and billions

of dollars there. Nobody seems to

know exactly how much money we

have spent in Bosnia. I heard some people

say we have already spent $12 billion

in Bosnia. Some people say the

real figure is closer to $20 billion or $22

billion. But we are spending billions of

dollars.

I remember in 1995 the President,

when he committed the troops, said

they would only be there for a year. As

a matter of fact, the year would expire

right around election time in 1996. He

thought he was going to get them out

before election time. But he didn’t.

Then he said he would extend them another

year. And now they are on 3

years plus, and they are still in Bosnia,

and we know they will be in Bosnia for

a long, long time.

I visited our troops there. They are

very dedicated and very committed.

They are also very, very expensive

peacekeepers. I have urged the Secretary

of Defense and the Secretary of

State, that if we are going to get involved

in Kosovo let s not repeat what

we have done in Bosnia. It is not the

same amount of cost and consternation

for European troops, who live in Poland

or live in Germany or live in

Italy, to spend a little time in Bosnia

or Kosovo as it is for somebody in the

United States. They are able to go

home at various points. We are not

able to do that. We are awfully expensive.

So I just make the point that I am

very concerned about the administration’s

strategy. I am concerned about

this idea that if we just get the

Kosovars to agree, then we can bomb

Mr. Milosevic and he will now be a

compliant partner for peace. That has

not proven to be the case. I don’t think

it will be the case. I think we will be

stuck there for a long time.

That is the main point I wish to

bring as far as my objective. I don’t see

an exit strategy. I am afraid that we

will be there for tens of years instead

of 1 year or a very short period of time.

Mr. President, I make those comments

on Kosovo.