

without killing hosts of civilians. These are some of the real issues that are currently being considered. Whether America is viewed as a paper tiger, a toothless tiger, one who blusters and blows and attacks the weak but is afraid to stand up to the strong, all such discussion is in a sense irrelevant. The reality is that the Bosnians can and will fight and America doesn't have the belly for that kind of fight. I don't want America to intervene and put troops on the ground. You see my concern is a little more restricted than just what would apply to America as a whole. When I talk about an inordinate burden, I'm talking again about people of my complexion. At most we make up 11 percent of the population, maybe 12 or 13 if you factor in some of the errors in the census taking, yet in all of these engagements where people are to die, we are in those engagements out of all proportion to our representation in this population, exceeding one-third of the total, over 33 percent. Some have estimated as high as 38 percent in these areas where our blood can be shed, it can moisten the land and countries whose names we may not be able to pronounce in order to assure what is called the rights and freedoms of others who don't look like us. And while those of our kind are over there dying, our kind in this country are catching hell. That's what happens to black people in America. So if ground troops are sent into this area, a disproportionate number will be people of my complexion. The only areas where they like to give us more than equal opportunity is when time comes to die on foreign soil or to populate prison cells. That's when we, as black people, are accorded the opportunity to gain more of what is being offered. What my amendment does is not to state what I have said here explicitly. What it does indicate is that in any of these so-called multinational undertakings the United States shall not assume a disproportionate share of the financial and military burden associated with or resulting from that undertaking. Although somebody had mentioned, and I think it was Senator Bernard-Stevens, the international makeup of the forces attacking Iraq, it was clear to everybody that America was fighting against Saddam Hussein's army, that George Bush was fighting Saddam Hussein. And we know that the Elsabah family which was ruling Kuwait was making money hand over fist prior to that engagement, during that engagement and afterward, that some of those sheiks whose interests America was so interested in protecting that they sent young black men and women of my complexion there out of all proportion to our representation in this population, some of them were in Europe. One of those fellows had four score and seven children, almost that many,