One can give us an accurate appraisal of the problem. What we do know is that the current rate of finding it will take centuries, maybe even a thousand years or more, to return this land to safe and productive use. Some may be so damaged, we may not attempt to clean it up.

Unexploded ordnances are a serious problem today. Human activity and wildlife are encroaching on more and more of these sites as our neighborhoods grow and sprawl. At the same time, the natural rhythms of nature, flooding, earthquakes, and landslides, aided and abetted by human activity, exposes these dangers. Today, across America, we are finding lost and forgotten unexploded ordnance that was intentionally buried in a feeble attempt to dispose of it, or a shell that missed its mark and did not explode as intended.

There are many targets toward which citizens can direct their frustrations and in some cases anger: the Department of Defense, the Army Corps of Engineers or EPA. People have some legitimate concerns about what these and other agencies have done in the past and what they are doing now. But there is one participant that is missing in action, and that is the United States Congress. Only we in Congress can set adequate funding levels, budget clearly, and then make sure that enough money is appropriated to do the job right. Congress can pinpoint managerial responsibility and establish the rules of the game.

It is not acceptable to me for Congress to occasionally step in from the sidelines, complain, protest, and then shift inadequate funding from one high-priority project to another high-priority project. This ability to find an unexplained waste dump, chemical and weapons disposal in every State. We can make sure that there is enough funding, and we get the job done so that no child will be at risk for death, dismemberment or serious illness as a result of the United States Government not cleaning up after itself.

CHINA: FRIEND OR FOE?

The Speaker pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Stearns) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, in the last Congress and many before, many of us have heard predictions that have been made regarding China. Advocates last year stated that granting permanent normal trade relations to China would help bring reform to this Communist government, and establish a real friendship between our nations.

On February 11 of this year, Chinese officials detained an American family. In doing so, they separated the couple’s 5-year-old son from his parents for 26 days. After 26 days, little Andrew was reunited with his father and expelled, but his mother is still being held.

President Bush is demanding the release of this Washington-based sociologist. Her family claims that the alleged spying charges are trumped up. The State Department has announced this woman was not even an agent of the American intelligence service.