Madam Speaker, this

evening I would like to insert several

articles into the RECORD dealing with

the issue of war against Iraq and the

gulf, and I wanted to remind those who

are listening that, indeed, if we look at

the foreign policy of the United States

over the last 30 years or so, we have

had more Americans killed at home

and abroad as a result of rising terrorism

than in the first 187 years of our

country.

So we have to begin to ask the question,

why are we losing so many Americans

in this way? Why is Washington

becoming more barricaded? Why can

we not go and ride in front of the White

House anymore in our cars? Why are

there bomb searches all over this city?

Why are American embassies being

built like bunkers all around the

world? I would like to submit the following.

If we think back to the time when

President George Bush, Senior, prior to

his election as President was director

of the CIA, that was about 1977, the

mid-1970s, before President Jimmy

Carter became President of the United

States, and at the time my colleagues

might recall that the Shah of Iran was

deposed in the late seventies. I think it

was late 1979, and many American hostages

were taken, including Terry Anderson.

At the moment that Jimmy Carter’s

presidency reverted to Ronald Reagan

after the election of 1980, the hostages

were returned home. President Carter

worked very, very hard, as history will

record.

Then when the Reagan-Bush administration,

the new administration, took

over, they essentially made a deal between

our country and the Gulf states

to go after Ayatollah Khomeini, the

new leader in those days of Iran, who

had taken our hostages. And who did

they hire to do the dirty work for

them? They hired none other than Saddam

Hussein.

They gave him weapons through the

government of the United States, and,

indeed, if we look back, and I am trying

to find the exact set of hearings

right now. In the Committee on Banking

of the House of Representatives, a

hearing was held regarding the extension

of Treasury tax credits, agricultural

tax credits to Saddam Hussein in

order to buy fertilizers, in quotes, with

chemicals from our country at the

same time in our country’s history

when we would not even make those

same extensions of credit to our farmers.

Companies in Salem, Ohio, and

Bedford, Ohio, were being asked by our

Treasury to sell those same chemicals

to Iraq; and, indeed, it was done.

The Gulf states and the United

States were afraid perhaps that the

Ayatollah Khomeini at that time

might bomb Mecca or try to spread his

revolution throughout the Middle East

and get control of the oil fields. So

Saddam Hussein was promised access,

better access from Iraq, which is landlocked,

to a waterborne commerce

through Kuwait, a slip of land, which

in the end he never did get and, ultimately,

he invaded in order to get that

access.

Then, of course, if we look back to

the early 1990s, the United States went

to war to defend the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border,

but, in fact, the very monster that

we helped to create at that point was

trying to fulfill what he had been

promised as a result of U.S. assistance

all through that period, especially

when the Reagan and Bush administration

took office and then President

Bush himself elected in 1988 and taking

us into the Gulf War.

It is really important to remember

and to ask ourselves the question, who

encouraged Saddam Hussein? Who encouraged

him to take on Iran? Who encouraged

him to try to depose the Ayatollah,

and who gave him the weapons

and the credits to our Treasury Department

to finance those initial actions

inside of Iraq that created the monster

that the President of the United

States, the son of the first George

Bush, talked about on the television

tonight?

My colleagues might also think

about the fact, who armed Osama bin

Laden to fight inside Afghanistan

against the then Soviet Army? Who did

that? Who was President of the United

States when that happened? George

Bush, Senior, was President of the

United States when that happened;

and, of course, the Russians went to

certain defeat in Afghanistan after a

long period of time. Where did al Qaeda

learn some of those fighting techniques?

Who helped them do that?

Where did they get those rifles?

So I just wanted to put that on the

RECORD. I know there are other historians

who will add to this, but I also

wanted to read from a veteran who

wrote an editorial to the New York

Times last week Wednesday entitled,

Fighting the First Gulf War. The last

sentence, and I will end with this,

reads, ‘‘I watched the fallout from the

burning oil wells coat my uniform and

I knew that I was breathing into my

lungs the crude oil I was fighting for.’’

I ask America to think about it.

I will insert in the RECORD at this

point the articles that I referred to earlier.