Mr. Speaker, we

need a vote on whether this country is

going to go to war with Iran. We have

talked to the Speaker about it. She has

promised it. But the time is getting

short. Every day that we wait, we

allow people down at the White House

to continue to talk about this.

The vote we gave in 2002 to allow the

President to deal with the problems of

9/11 was not a blank check to attack

any country in the world. This war on

terror began with some sense in Afghanistan,

and then moved to Iraq to

the absolute chaos we have today. It is

a quagmire from which we can’t get

ourselves. And, unfortunately, the

President and his Vice President are

leading us, it appears, toward a war

with Iran.

Ask why the urgency? Why do you

want to come out here and talk about

that tonight? Well, there was an article

that appeared today in the Al-Quds Al-

Arabi, which is an Arabic paper published

in London. It is a very respectable

paper, and it is one that most people

in this body, in fact most people in

this country, never heard of, nor do

they understand and will never know

about it because our press won’t pick it

up.

But I read the Middle Eastern press

every day. I have some in my office

who read Arabic, and they translate it

for me, and I get a summary every day

in my office of what is going on. This

article I think deserves to be quoted a

little bit, because people may not get

the Congressional Quarterly or the

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and read it.

The article says this: ‘‘Vice President

Dick Cheney yesterday ended his tour

of the Arab world that started with

Iraq and ended in the capitals of four

other Arab countries, Egypt, Jordan,

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab

Emirates. High ranking Arab diplomatic

sources close to the talks with

Cheney confirmed to the newspaper

that the probability of war became

more likely than peace in the region.’’

This is Arabs listening to the Vice

President of the United States talk.

‘‘The same sources indicated that

Cheney was talking to Gulf leaders he

met in a very confident and self-assured

way, stressing that the involvement

of this country in Iraq does not

mean it is in a weak situation and cannot

launch another war.’’

Think about that. The Vice President

is telling the Arab leaders, because we

are in this mess in Iraq, just ignore

that. We still can go to Iran and have

a war.

Cheney went and talked to soldiers

and sailors on one of the aircraft carriers,

‘‘announcing to them,’’ and this

again is a quote, ‘‘in a decisive manner

that the U.S. will not allow Iran to

possess nuclear weapons and that the

option of a military attack is not excluded.’’

Now, he said, again quoting, ‘‘Cheney

expressed his conviction that striking

Iran may be the best solution for the

situation in Iraq.’’

Think about it. We are going to solve

our problems in Iraq by attacking Iran.

He says, ‘‘because Tehran,’’ the capital

of Iran, ‘‘has the biggest influence in

the country and is the source of the

arms of the militia.’’

Now, this is from a man who sent to

Iraq a guy named Bremer who took

down all the guards and all the barriers

at the border between Iran and Iraq,

and Iran, of course, has been coming

into Iraq. This administration set it

up, or else they were ignorant. You can

take your choice on that.

He said, ‘‘They do not expect that

there will be any retaliation by Iraq’s

Shiite militias. Quite the contrary, the

Sunni groups and militias will take the

opportunity to settle accounts with the

ruling government in Baghdad under

American support.’’

So what he is saying is that the

United States is shifting its support

from the Maliki government, which is

Shiite, and they are now over there

telling people, well, we are going to

now be supporting the Sunni elements

so that they can get—Mr. Speaker, I

include the translation of the Al-Quds

Al-Arabi article for the RECORD.