Mr. Speaker, for months now, President Bush has refused

to listen to anyone outside of his war cabinet and for any counsel on

the war in Iraq. Yesterday, the bipartisan Iraq Study Group came to the

sobering conclusion that the situation in Iraq is grave and

deteriorating.

We lost 10 soldiers in Iraq yesterday. We have lost more than 30

soldiers already this month. I had hoped that the President would begin

to reconsider his course after the November election, but the President

continues to say that American troops will remain in Iraq after he

leaves office in 2 years. This is simply unacceptable. We must begin

the process of redeploying our troops out of Iraq now.

The Iraqi Prime Minister was correct when he said that the war can

only be won politically, and, therefore, it is time for us to bring our

troops home. It is time for the politicians in Iraq to begin to work

together to bring an end to the civil war and for the international

community, particularly Iraq's neighbors, to work with Iraqi leaders to

stabilize the Nation. Our troops have done everything they can, and it

is now up to the Iraqis to take complete control of their country.