Mr. Speaker, I have to my side the faces of marines who

have given their lives for this country. They are from Camp Lejeune,

which is in the district I represent. These are the faces of those

young men and women who gave their lives for this country.

I come to the floor today because I join the American people. I am

very concerned about committing our troops to 4 more years in

Afghanistan. Afghanistan is a vast country. It has never been a nation.

It doesn't have a government, and we are trying to build a government

in Afghanistan. I want to share just a couple of comments. This is from

The Washington Examiner.

It reads:

Recently, on November 28 of this year, there was a ``60 Minutes''

segment by Anderson Cooper. It was called ``Good Cop, Bad Cop:

Afghanistan's National Police.'' I want to read just a couple of

excerpts from this:

Just another part from that ``60 Minutes'':

I am going to paraphrase very quickly:

There has been very little success. The Afghan police are still 9

years behind in training, and we have already spent 9 years training

them. I don't know how that adds up to anything positive.

I am going to save some of the other comments from the ``60 Minutes''

segment to use later on this week and to use, certainly, next year when

we come back.

Mr. Speaker, I have signed over 9,747 letters to families and

extended families who have lost loved ones in the wars in Iraq and

Afghanistan. I do that every weekend so I can be reminded of my mistake

of voting to give President Bush the authority to go into Iraq--a war

we never had to fight. It was manipulated by those within the

administration, and it never had to be; and, yes, we lost young men and

women in that battle.

On Afghanistan, I have joined my colleagues on both the Democratic

side and the Republican side to ask: What is the end point? What is the

definition of ``victory''? What are we trying to achieve? You can never

get a straight answer. I don't care who gives you an answer; you don't

know what the end point is.

So there we are, spending $6 billion, $7 billion a month in

Afghanistan, but we can't fix the streets in America. We can't build

schools in America; yet we have borrowed that $6 billion, $7 billion

from our Chinese friends. We owe them the money while we spend it in a

foreign country, and we can't even take care of our own people.

So, Mr. Speaker, again, the faces of these young marines--and they

could be soldiers, they could be airmen, they could be Navy, but these

young marines who died at 20 and 21, the only thing their parents can

do in the years ahead, or their loved ones, is to show the face of a

21-year-old marine that died at 21 and will always be seen as a young

man who gave his life for this country.

It's time for this Congress to come together and say to President

Obama, We don't need 4 more years of spending money--and more important

than money is the blood of the American soldier and marine and

serviceman that is dying for this country.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I will, as I always do, I will ask God to

please bless our men and women in uniform, to please bless the families

of our men and women in uniform, to bless the families who have given a

child dying for freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq, and I will ask God to

please bless the House and Senate, that we will do what is right in the

eyes of God. And I will ask God to please give wisdom, strength and

courage to President Obama, that he will do what is right in the eyes

of God for today and tomorrow's generation.