Mr. Speaker, this week we will debate

a non-binding resolution that will do nothing more than undermine the

mission in Iraq, weaken the morale of our troops, and embolden our

enemy.

No doubt mistakes have been made in the battle with Iraq. With every

war mistakes are made. The question before us is, Are we going to learn

from the mistakes and correct them and move forward with a plan of

success, or are we going to retreat in defeat?

Mr. Speaker, the terrorists themselves believe Iraq is a central

front in the war on terror. Al Zawahiri, al Qaeda's deputy leader, has

repeatedly said Iraq and Afghanistan are the

in the Islamists' war. A policy of retreat and defeat would

result in pervasive instability and embolden radical Islamist

terrorists and rogue regimes to expand new areas in the region.

Mr. Speaker, the stakes are real and they are high. And the American

people deserve leadership, not partisan politics. I will continue to

support our troops by continuing to support their mission.