Mr. Speaker, the United States illegally attacked and

invaded Iraq in a war based on lies. Now those same lies are being used

to tell the American people we must escalate and continue to fund the

war in the name of the troops. Now, where does this logic end?

The war could go on endlessly as we profess our support for the

troops. It is time to stop using the troops as pawns. It is time to

stop using the presence of the troops in Iraq as a reason to keep

funding the war. It is time to use the money we have now to bring the

troops home. And when they come home, it is time to take care of our

veterans.

I have presented this Congress with a 12-point plan to bring our

troops home, end the occupation, and stabilize Iraq. Yes, we should

stop the escalation, but we should also end the occupation by ending

funding for the war.