Mr. HUNTER. I want to thank my friend, Mr. Lewis, for giving me a

chance to talk about this supplemental bill, this very bad bill, once

again.

Mr. Speaker, I have carefully reviewed the language on page 72 of

this bill with our counsel as to the exact legal effect of this bill.

This bill says that an American unit cannot be introduced into Iraq

until a 15-day waiting period has expired. Now, what does that mean?

That means if you have hostages being held in a place in Iraq and you

want to move a Delta force team across the line, you can't do that for

15 days under the law, should this become law. It says if you have a

fleeting target, like the Zarqawi strike that we made a couple of

months ago, and time is of the essence and you want to take an F-16 out

of Incirlik, Turkey and make a strike, you can't do it without waiting

for 15 days after notifying the House Armed Services Committee, the

Senate Armed Services Committee, and presumably the Appropriations

Committee.

Mr. Speaker, if we have an extreme situation in Iraq where Americans

have to be rescued or reinforced, I don't want them to come back and

notify me

or notify the committee. I want them to do what they have to do and

carry out their mission.

This is a very defective bill, and this 15-day waiting requirement in

this war against terror where time is of the essence, where American

military teams move across country boundaries every day without

certifying anything to anybody, this is a real disservice to the forces

that work not only in Iraq, but should this be applied to other parts

of the world in a future time would be a real disservice to everybody

who fights in the war against terror.

I strongly support the motion of the gentleman from California.