Mr. Speaker, today we will see another attempt by the

liberal majority leadership to drive a stake between the American

people and the brave men and women fighting in the global war on

terror. Today's latest attempt is called a precipitous withdrawal. The

American people would label it a cut and run. Our soldiers deserve the

confidence of their leaders, not second-guessing arrogance by

politicians half a world away.

The leadership thinks Iraq is lost, despite the fact that the new

mission has shown signs of progress, including the fact that half of

Baghdad has been secured, the Baghdad Security Plan. General Petraeus

and Ambassador Crocker are going to provide us a progress report in

September, but that is not fast enough for the liberal leadership. They

expected the new strategy to win overnight. Don't they know that you

don't find instant gratification in war?

One thing is certain: surrender and failure in securing Iraq hold

catastrophic consequences for freedom, the U.S., and the Iraqi people.

Surrender would send the wrong message. It will say the U.S. is weak,

that roving death squads in the streets of Baghdad and ethnic cleansing

are acceptable to us. It may be fashionable to want to pull out of

Iraq, but it sends the wrong message.