Mr. Speaker, today at 12 o'clock in the

Liberty Caucus, which is a group of about 9 or 10 of us who meet in Mr.

Ron Paul's office, we had retired Lieutenant General Greg Newbold, who

spoke to us; and I have met with General Newbold in my office a couple

of times. I am very impressed with this gentleman and his integrity and

his honesty, and I want to read just a couple of paragraphs from a Time

magazine article. It is entitled,

This article is not written by a reporter for Time magazine. This

article was written by Lieutenant General Greg Newbold, Retired, and I

just want to read a couple of paragraphs because I think he makes such

a great point. Again, this article is April 9, 2006. I met with him in

my office in May of this year.

This is paragraph one of two I want to read for the Record.

Mr. Speaker, I mention that, before I read the last paragraph, I had

the pleasure, as I said earlier, to meet with General Newbold in May of

this year. I had the pleasure of hearing him speak today, and he is a

man of great integrity, like the majority of all of those in our

military. He was on the inside before we went to war in Iraq. He heard

the planning, was part of the planning, and as he said to us today, he

said, You know, when we first had our meeting after September 11, we

were told to develop a strategy for Afghanistan; and then the next time

we have our meeting, we are asked, Where is the plan for Iraq?

This is, I think, such an important part that he writes:

Mr. Speaker, I mention this because I think we in Congress, to meet

our constitutional duties, do have a responsibility for oversight. I

would think and hope that my party, as well as the other party, would

want to know how did we get into Iraq, was the intelligence verified

time after time, time after time before we committed our troops to

Iraq. I think that we should know in fairness to democracy. A democracy

will not stand without truth being told.

So I hope that my side, as well as the other side, would come

together and let us hold hearings. I have actually asked the chairman

of Armed Services to bring in General Newbold, General Zinni and

General Baptiste and bring them in to the Armed Services Committee for

hearings, even if it was a classified or a closed hearing, because we

in Congress, in both parties, should be asking these questions.

I will close by saying that, again, it has been a pleasure that I

would have the privilege to hear General Newbold today at lunchtime. He

reiterated things he had said to me back in May to about 10 of my

colleagues, and I do hope that we need not to make the same mistake in

future wars.

We need to make sure that the Congress is informed and informed with

credible evidence from intelligence that has been verified time after

time before we are asked to give the authority to the President,

whether it be a Republican or a Democrat, to commit our troops to Iraq.

So, Mr. Speaker, with that, I will close as I have many times on the

floor of the House. I will ask the good Lord in heaven to please bless

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

and women in uniform; and I will ask God to continue to bless America