Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States is

going to urge a troop escalation in Iraq. I must protest this for the

following reasons:

This war was wrong from the beginning. Our focus should have been

Afghanistan. We had a real opportunity to bring freedom and change to

Afghanistan. Instead, we diverted our attention to Iraq with disastrous

results.

More troops will not bring the United States more support from the

Iraqis, but it will bring our troops and the people of Iraq more

misery, more fighting, more injuries and more death.

We are spending our children's future in this war.

There are no benefits to either the United States, to Iraq or to the

world.