Mr. Speaker, on Monday, Senator Lugar, the former

chairman and current ranking Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations

Committee, went to the Senate floor and said that the President's troop

escalation is not working. Then yesterday Republican Senator Voinovich

said the U.S. should begin pulling troops out of Iraq so that people

know we are indeed disengaging. But the President and his spokesman

said, no, we need more troops and more time.

It has been clear for at least a year that a serious course

correction is needed in Iraq. But, unfortunately, Republicans in this

House of Representatives continue to rubber stamp the Bush

administration's war policies. Democrats are changing the course of

this misguided war, but with a stubborn President unwilling to face

reality, congressional Republicans must break ranks with the President

to do what is best for our Nation and for Iraq.

It is my hope that the congressional Republicans will seriously

listen to their colleagues' comments and conclude, as Democrats already

have, that we need to dramatically change our policy in Iraq.