Mr. Speaker, this week the House will have a chance to

move the Iraq war in a new direction: one that holds the Iraqi

Government accountable for meeting benchmarks that they have already

promised they could make.

In contrast, the President's only answer is an open-ended commitment

to what even his own Pentagon now admits is a civil war. Military

leaders across the board have already told the President that there is

no military solution to the war, and yet he continues with the status

quo.

Lieutenant General Peter Chiarelli said in December:

Lieutenant General Raymond Odierno said:

And just last month, Major General Paul Eaton said:

These military leaders are correct. Iraqis must step forward and make

critical political reforms if they really want to begin to stem the

violence. But unlike the President, Democrats will finally demand some

accountability from the Iraqi Government this week.