Mr. Speaker, the President persists, despite the

contrary advice of his most experienced and senior military officers in

the field, that escalation is the answer to the chaos, the sectarian

strife, in Iraq.

He is not only perpetuating his failed status quo stay-the-course

strategy; he actually is going to undermine the U.S. forces and our

allies in the most critical conflict.

Remember his phrase, ``Fight them there or fight them here''? Well,

that is true, but not in Iraq. That is true in Afghanistan.

Remember ``Osama bin Ladin: dead or alive''? The Taliban, al Qaeda?

Well, they are resurgent and they are going to threaten Kandahar we are

told by our commanders in the field in the spring, and they have asked

for reinforcements.

And what is the President doing to perpetuate his failed policy in

Iraq, an unnecessary war in an area that doesn't threaten the United

States of America? He is withdrawing U.S. troops from southern

Afghanistan and sending them on a failed mission in Iraq.

He could be the only President to lose two wars at the same time.