Madam Speaker, there are a lot

of issues that are before this Congress, very, very serious issues. But

on Christmas Day, we were reminded of one that we do not always think

about, and that is the fact that we are still the subject of those who

would use terror to take away our liberty.

I would hope that, as the President has found it appropriate to use

the word ``war'' and talk about the war with al Qaeda, that we would

understand that it is more than words, it is actions; that we need to

treat those who would attempt to kill us in this way as what they are,

unlawful enemy combatants, not common criminals. We should not turn

them over to our criminal justice system. We should allow them to be

interrogated by the military.

Madam Speaker, those who say that they are attacking us because of

Guantanamo do not understand history, both long-term and short-term.

They are not attacking us because of Guantanamo. They are attacking us

because of the Statue of Liberty.