Mr. Speaker, as we debate our policy in Iraq, perhaps it's

useful to consider a lesson from history.

In all the media coverage of the war supplemental debate, a shameful

anniversary in our history slipped by, mostly unnoticed.

Last week marked the anniversary of Congress's decision to cut off

military funding for our involvement in Southeast Asia. The result, as

predicted, was genocide; 3 million innocent people slaughtered in

Cambodia's killing fields.

Mr. Speaker, similar warnings exist today in Iraq. Observers from

across the political spectrum say a precipitous withdrawal of U.S.

forces from Iraq could very likely result in a region-wide bloodbath.

No one wants to see this, yet withdrawal is what many in this body are

pushing for.

Mr. Speaker, before we act, let's remember the lesson of history. And

we all want our troops to come home safely, but we need to win first

and then come home. Defeat, surrender and genocide are not acceptable

alternatives.

And Mr. Speaker, as a personal note, I'd like to say before I end,

welcome to the world to little Joseph Thomas Offutt, a new grandson,

namesake born earlier this week, 9 pounds, 14 ounces. You've brought

great joy and happiness to our family. May you enjoy a long, good life.