Mr. Speaker, Osama bin Laden himself has

stated that victory for the extremists in Iraq will mean America's

defeat and disgrace forever.

The terrorists clearly see Iraq has the central front in the global

war on terror.

On Monday evening, the fifth anniversary of the attacks of 9/11 and

the beginning of the war on terror, the President clearly stated the

importance of success in Afghanistan and Iraq and winning that war. He

understands the resolve that we need to meet the significant challenges

faced by our Nation.

And what is the response of the Democratic leadership? To attack the

President for even mentioning Iraq as a part of the war on terror. They

seek, once again, to distract and divide America to score cheap

political points.

For whatever reason, they do not take the terrorists at their word

with regard to Iraq, or they do not care because they see a political

benefit in undermining U.S. efforts.

The Democrats must understand that America must be united. We must

have the resolve to defeat the terrorists in the heart of their power

so we do not have to fight them on our own streets.

One has to wonder if the Democratic leadership cares as much about

winning the war on terror as they do about winning the election in

November.