Mr. Speaker, President Bush says progress is being made

in Iraq, but many of the examples he pointed to in the nationally

televised speech last week were overestimated or overly optimistic. Let

me just cite a couple examples.

First, President Bush said,

But according to the Washington Post, the President's statement ignored

the fact that U.S. officials have been frustrated that none of these

actions have become law and that a possible compromise has collapsed.

The President also thanked

But if he had checked with his own State Department,

he would have realized that only 25 countries are still involved in the

war, supplying only 11,600 troops. Now, that is less than 7 percent of

the size of the U.S. forces still on the ground.

Mr. Speaker, this is nothing new. The President has been painting

rosy scenarios for the situation in Iraq from the very beginning. Time

and time again they have been proven wrong. The status quo simply can't

continue. It is time to change course.