Mr. Speaker, we have heard an awful lot in

the last couple of days from the Democrats over the national

intelligence estimate which partly says that our involvement in Iraq is

creating a new generation of jihadist leaders.

What they fail to say is that the same NIE says that, I quote,

Mr. Speaker, I want to remind my colleagues that one of those new

leaders cited in the report, Abu Musaab al Zarqawi, is now very much

dead. Let's just say that he has failed.

The NIE says that the best way to kill the jihadist movement is to

spread hope and democracy, which is exactly what we are doing in Iraq

and Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, national security is the first and foremost

responsibility of the Federal Government and of every Member of

Congress, and we always need to put national security ahead of

politics. And yet, the Democratic minority leader just last week said

that she thinks that national security should not be an issue in this

campaign.

She actually said that, that national security should not be an

issue. Think about that.