Mr. Speaker, nearly 1,300 brave American men and women

have sacrificed their lives in Iraq. Yet the central reasons for the

U.S. invasion have fallen apart: Iraq had nothing to do with 9/11, Iraq

had no weapons of mass destruction, there is no proof that Iraq was

instrumental with al Qaeda's role in 9/11, and Iraq was not trying to

get nuclear materials from Najir.

This administration misled the Congress, misled the American people,

violated international law, directed the bombings of populated areas

causing the disruption of water, sewer, and electrical service, ordered

house-to-house fighting, and now, the civilian toll, by one account, is

over 100,000 Iraqi civilians perished. Why?

Freedom, if it is to be obtained anywhere, must be advanced under the

standard of truth. The Iraqis will not be handed freedom based on lies,

nor will our own Nation preserve our freedoms if we continue to accept

the basis for our occupation of Iraq.

This administration must be held accountable under international law

for the disaster it visited upon Iraq. Only the truth can clean the

stain on our Nation's conscience.