Mr. Speaker, yesterday when Democrat leader Howard Dean

said that the war in Iraq is unwinnable and Senate Democrat

presidential candidate John Kerry said that American soldiers in the

dark of the night are terrorizing Iraqi women and children, I scratch

my head in absolute disgust and disappointment. The party of Scoop

Jackson has apparently been now completely hijacked by Cindy Sheehan

and Michael Moore.

I went to Iraq last week, and I wish that Mr. Dean and Mr. Kerry

would go to Iraq and talk directly to our soldiers. Here is what I

found, and incidentally, I went with a bipartisan group, three

Democrats, three Republicans. We found troop morale high, a great deal

of enthusiasm for the mission. No equipment shortages. From tissue to

toilet paper, our troops are well equipped. We found that they were

very engaged in the mission and that the Iraqi security forces each day

were getting more and more of the territory under their control.

We found enthusiasm for the December 15 election, 228 different

political parties already offering candidates. A lot of progress is

being made. Everything is completely different than the pessimism and

the continuous criticism and the Vietnam-era radicalism expressed by

Mr. Kerry and Mr. Dean. I would invite those two to go over there and

see for themselves before they send such discouraging signals to our

troops in action.