Mr. Speaker, Democratic Party chairman Howard Dean has

taken his party's irresponsible rhetoric about our involvement in Iraq

to a new low. In an interview earlier this week Mr. Dean said,

Dean's take on Iraq makes even less sense than his scream in Iowa.

What does Mr. Dean think it does for the morale of our troops on the

ground in Iraq when they hear the leader of one of their Nation's two

major political parties say that he does not believe that they can get

the job done.

Mr. Dean may not believe that our troops are up to the task in Iraq,

but I and the overwhelming majority of my colleagues do. It is

important our troops understand that. Our troops have freed 26 million

Iraqis from the grip of a brutal and murderous dictator, set the stage

for democratic elections in a country where this was once thought

impossible.

Make no mistake, if the war against terrorism is lost, it will not be

lost by our magnificent troops on the battlefield. It will be lost

right here at home by politicians who lose their resolve.