Mr. Speaker, like so many here in the House, I continue to

pray for all of the courageous men and women in the uniforms of our

Armed Forces, and especially the families who have lost a loved one and

have paid the ultimate price in Afghanistan and Iraq. But I wish, as

the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman Hyde) referenced, that all of the

Members could have been with me in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, this past

Monday, along with the Secretary of Energy, to see the centrifuges and

the nuclear arsenal that was voluntarily given up by Moammar Qaddafi

from Libya, because there is no doubt, while we can all draw our own

conclusions, there is no doubt in my heart that that is a result of our

consistent and decisive offensive since September 11 around the world

against terror; because terrorism, as we see in Spain and in Baghdad

and the fear in London, is alive and well, and terrorism continues, and

we must pursue the terrorists and keep them on the defensive.

I believe our consistency and our resoluteness has paid off in

effective ways, such as Libya giving up their nuclear deterrent; the

Bush doctrine: You are either with us or you are against us. They have

to declare. Libya declared. We do not want to be against you; they are

voluntarily giving it up.

Now, we need to listen to some of the neutral parties. I know a lot

of the concern today is about process. I do not know, I was not here

when the Democrats were in the majority. Frankly, both parties are

guilty of shutting out the other side. But I know that I am concerned

about the signals that are being sent today out of this Chamber and in

this town about our commitment to Iraq. This is a bold, long-term

commitment.

Neutral observers like Thomas Friedman expressed concern in the last

48 hours about Spain, what is happening in Iraq, and whether the

terrorists are intimidating free people around the world. We need to

stand our ground in this war on terror. There is no doubt we had to do

what we did in Iraq and that good has come out of it.

Mr. Speaker, terrorism cannot be allowed to win the day. Peace

through strength works. Appeasement has never worked. And we are tested

again today, whether or not we will stick to our guns and finish what

we have started, even if it takes years and more money.

I want to secure our investments in the region. The people were poor

there, but the country was wealthy. I believe we have done the right

thing, and we have to be strong and tough and dig our heels in.