Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, just today, while debating this new Iraq withdrawal

bill, reports continue to surface that al Qaeda is now restructuring

its power.

Like several other recent actions on the part of Democrats recently,

this bill communicates to jihadist enemies that we are weakening and

confirms their belief that they have a critical advantage over free

people in the world because their will is far stronger than ours and

they need only to persevere to break our resolve.

Osama bin Laden himself has stated, ``The whole world is watching

this war and the two adversaries. It's either victory and glory, or

misery and humiliation.''

Mr. Speaker, if Democrats continue to insist that the war in Iraq has

nothing to do with the war on terrorism, then I wish they would explain

that to the terrorists because they still don't understand, and they

are continuing to be fundamentally committed to the destruction of the

Western world and to killing us wherever they find us.

Mr. Speaker, the premise behind this bill is that we can have peace

tomorrow so long as we are willing to surrender today. Unfortunately,

with jihadist terrorism, just the opposite is true. If we surrender to

terrorism today, it will only bring greater horror and suffering to all

of humanity tomorrow.

So vital questions arise to those who would continue to demand that

we surrender Iraq to terrorists. Are they also willing to allow the

citizens and families of this Nation to face jihad and what may become

a nuclear jihad here at home? And what will we tell our children when

that day comes?

Mr. Speaker, defeating radical jihad in Iraq and throughout the world

will require the support, perseverance, patience, wisdom and prayers of

the American people. But for the sake of those people and for our

children, for our future generation and for people across the world who

still hope for freedom, I pray that the Members of this body would heed

that warning echoing down through history.

There is no substitute for victory.