I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I don't have prepared remarks. I have been listening

to this debate for the last couple of days, and everything that can be

said on both sides has been said repeatedly. And thus far the only

thoughtful argument I have heard to not vote for this resolution is

that somehow it will demoralize the troops. That pretends that the

troops live in a bubble and don't know what is going on and just never

think. Everybody who has done any discussions or any polling of the

troops know they already know that this war is over. It's not a

military defeat. To put it that way is ridiculous. No one can defeat

our military. It is absolutely undefeatable. It is a political defeat.

We cannot win, which I am not even sure what that means, this war. This

escalation will do nothing but delay the inevitable. America knows it.

To listen to the discussion I have heard in the last couple of days,

all I can say to myself, if we had this attitude in the seventies, we

would still be in Vietnam. For what? For what? We have done what we

could do, and we may have to go back someday, and I may vote for it

under the right circumstances. To never say never is ridiculous. We

don't know where the cards are going to be played. We do know one

thing: that today Iraq is engaged in a civil war. One of the leaders of

that civil war isn't even in Iraq. He is in Iran. We are only delaying

the inevitable at the cost of our young men and women. And I am not

talking about money, because if this was the right war, a moral war,

money wouldn't be the issue.

This war is over. We need to recognize that. We need to stop trying

to play politics with it. Bring our troops home and prepare them for

the next battle that we might all join in if it's the right place and

the right time.