Thank you so much, Representative Waters, for allowing us

this opportunity to express our feelings towards the escalation of the

war, the war of choice, in Iraq.

I am adamantly against this expansion. I see it as another

provocation. I see Iraq now being the spawning ground that attracts all

those who hate America to come and kill Americans.

The President is asking for 21,500 more troops to go on the killing

fields. We don't even know who the enemy is. We use the name

insurgents. We don't even know the President's definition for victory.

How do you measure victory?

I remember the day that a great many Members stood up saluting the

fact that Iraq had a democratic election. Apparently, there is no faith

in those that were elected to administer the country of Iraq because

they are talking about America losing the war.

We were told by Rumsfeld that 368,000 Iraqis had been trained. Where

are they? Do they run away in the heat of battle? There is a lot of

mystery surrounding this whole debacle called the ``war against

terrorism'' in Iraq.

I thought we were looking for Osama bin Laden. All of a sudden we

switched over to a nation of 28 million people, to Saddam Hussein, who

didn't like Osama bin Laden.

I really feel that we were misdirected, misguided and, really, bottom

line, lied to. And I don't know if you knew this, but while the

President was making his presentation last night on a new direction

forward, U.S. forces entered the Iranian consulate in Iraq's Kurdish-

dominated north and seized computers, documents, and other items. It

was also reported that five staff members were taken into custody. This

is during the time that the President was making his speech.

Now, what I fear is that when the President said the axis of evil,

Iran and North Korea, one down, the second one to come, and the third

one very soon.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to end with giving you this piece of information.

What does that state? I understand right now that the United States has

worked with the Iraqi Government to have a law where they will contract

out their oil for the next 30 years and 75 percent of the proceeds will

go to the contractors. Seventy-five percent. It is the major rip-off of

all time.

Was that the real reason why we invaded without provocation into

Iraq?