Mr. Speaker, today we are asked to commemorate a

preemptive war. President Bush told the world there was no doubt Iraq

was concealing weapons of mass destruction, but this Republican

resolution instead reinterprets history.

It would have the American people believe that President Bush took

our Nation to war because in 1988 Saddam gassed the Kurds while

President Reagan appeased the Iraqi regime or because Saddam punished

the Marsh Arabs by draining the marshlands while the first Bush

administration watched.

This resolution memorializes the horrors of a dictator to justify the

flawed premise for preemptive war, but it fails to acknowledge the 565

American patriots who sacrificed their lives. This resolution exploits

the sacrifices of our troops, the suffering of the Iraqi people, all

for partisan gamesmanship.

Our Nation is at war. Our troops, their families, and the American

people deserve honesty from this House and from the White House.

We all support our troops. We all want a safer world. And the

American people deserve the truth.