Mr. Speaker, no one can ever forget the

horrific attacks on our Nation of 9/11. Our lives changed that day; the

world changed that day; and America looked for answers and we looked

for justice. And we looked, most importantly, for leadership.

I think the terrorists, recognizing the very limp response that

America had made to terrorist activities during the 1990s, probably

thought we would make a lot of noise, we would be out here rattling our

sabers, and then go back to our comfortable lifestyles and that we

would not respond in any meaningful way.

Well, these cowards, these terrorists who prey on the weak and

innocent, seriously underestimated the will of the American people, and

they certainly did not understand the political resolve of our great

President George W. Bush, our President who understands that his

constitutional responsibilities are to protect the homeland, to protect

Americans.

And so we went to Afghanistan and toppled the Taliban. We went into

Iraq where we liberated the Iraqi people from the oppression of Saddam

Hussein.

Mr. Speaker, recently I had the opportunity to travel to Libya where

we met with Moammar Qaddafi, and as we all know, he has opened up the

borders to Libya to let the Atomic Energy Commission come in and

voluntarily dismantle his nuclear program. Apparently he watched Saddam

Hussein get drug out of a rat hole and thought this regime change is

not all it is cracked up to be. Clearly the Bush doctrine is working.

Mr. Speaker, we recognize the brave Americans who have lost their

lives fighting for freedom, fighting the war

on terror. We recognize that battle is not over yet. Every one of them

is a hero, every American who puts on the uniform is a hero, and we

thank our partners in the coalition as well. God bless them all, God

bless our Commander in Chief, and God bless America.