Mr. Speaker, young men and women are giving up their

lives nearly every day to sustain the President's war in Iraq. They are

not in Iraq toppling Saddam. That has been done. They are not in Iraq

dismantling weapons of mass destruction. There never were any. They are

in Iraq dying in George Bush's crusade.

I think it is only fitting that we should give each of the dead a

minute of silence here on the floor. But we cannot because we would

have to stand here silent for 16\1/2\ hours. That is because today we

lost the 1,000th American in Iraq. For what? For what?

The President says we took out Saddam Hussein because he was a bad

guy. Well, that could apply to an awful lot of people all over the face

of the Earth. They went in there with no plan for establishing the

peace. And more people have died since the President made his fabled

landing on the Abraham Lincoln saying ``mission accomplished'' than

died before that. More people have died since they handed over control

to the Iraqis than died before the mission was accomplished. This has

been an unending disaster.

So since we cannot give a minute of silence for every member, let me

tell you who has died from my State thus far in Iraq. And I hope every

Member will come to the floor and do what I am doing tonight, speak the

names of the dead. Think about the futures they have lost and the

families they leave behind. And then I hope every American will ask the

President why. Why?

These men have died in this crusade in a war that was never

understood by the people who started it. They had no reason to go to

Iraq and they went anyway, and these people from my State paid the

price.