Mr. Speaker, let me just pick up where we left

off in this last hour. And I appreciate the discussion with my

colleagues. And if we have the time, I will be happy to yield to them.

It seems like we probably will have the time.

There is no question, none at all, that al-Qaeda and the Saddam

Hussein regime and people connected with that have met on numerous

occasions. There is no question that in May of 2002, Zarqawi, one of

the top lieutenants the senior al-Qaeda with bin Laden was in Baghdad

for medical treatment. And Uday Hussein provided that. There have been

numerous occasions that they have been together.

Now, the question was Osama bin Laden went to Saudi Arabia and he

said we have got to get rid of this guy up there, Saddam Hussein,

because he does not follow the hard-core Muslim line. The fact is

Winston Churchill, and I hate to go back in history, but he decided to

work with Joe Stalin, a communist tyrant who killed 50 million of his

own countrymen. They asked Churchill, ``Why in the world are you

working with Stalin?'' He said, ``I would go to bed with the devil in

order to beat Adolph Hitler.''

Osama bin Laden calls us the big devil and I believe Osama bin Laden

was willing to work with Saddam Hussein, who is one of the powerhouses

in the Middle East, to do everything he could to destroy Western

civilization and the United States.

Now, we do not know what went on in all these meetings. But we do

know that Osama bin Laden and his minions did talk to and work with

Saddam Hussein's people.

Now, do you err on the side of safety or do you not? We knew that

Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction. He killed thousands,

tens of thousands of Kurds with mustard gas. We found weapons just

recently that had sarin gas in them. Just recently our troops found

those. He had a nuclear facility that was bombed by the Israelis in

1981. So he was trying to develop a nuclear facility.

Now, for anybody to believe that he just threw that stuff out of the

window when he hates the West so much and he was negotiating and

talking with Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda, I think they are just

blowing smoke. Now, the President said we have got to go after the

terrorists. He did not go after Saddam Hussein first, he went after the

Taliban that we knew was working with Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan.

And he did a pretty good job of it.

And then he said there is the threat of weapons of mass destruction,

they have been used in the past. He had intelligence information that

indicated there were weapons of mass destruction and he decided to go

after Saddam Hussein. And all of us in this chamber when he did it said

that is the right thing to do.

Now, of course, everybody is second guessing.

I think it is important to go back in history a little bit because

history is very important, very important. In the 1990s Osama bin Laden

in the Sudan had 13 terrorists training camps around Khartoum. Our

intelligence agencies talked about that. The President and the NSC knew

about that. And at that time, we had an attack on the World Trade

Center because Osama bin Laden's minions tried to bring it down. That

was in 1993. In 1996, we had the attack that killed a lot of Americans

in Khobar Towers. In 1998, we had the attack on the embassies in

Athens, Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam and Tanzania, all of those in

1998 by al-Qaeda connections. And then in 2000, we had the attack that

killed a lot of our sailors on the USS Cole. We knew that Saddam

Hussein was behind that. We knew he was in the Sudan. We knew there

were 13 terrorist training camps and the previous administration did

nothing.

Now we go to September 11, 2001. And the President had an attack on

the World Trade Center, against a second one. We did not do anything

about the first one. We did not go after Osama bin Laden then but we

waited. Then they brought down the World Trade Center, both towers.

And the President said we are going after the terrorists worldwide,

no matter where they are hiding. We are going after them if they are in

the Sudan. We are going after them if they are in Afghanistan. We are

going after them under every rock they are hiding. And we are going to

do it also in Iraq because we believe Saddam Hussein is working with

al-Qaeda. He had connections with al-Qaeda. His son worked with al-

Qaeda.

And they had weapons of mass destruction because we knew they had

used them before and the President was told by intelligence agencies

that they were there. Quite frankly, I still believe there were weapons

of mass destruction. It is the size of California. And I believe that

we will find more. And many of them may have been sent to Syria.

Everybody is concerned about that because Syria is a very close ally

and was of Saddam Hussein.

But the fact of the matter is do you err on the side of safety? Do

you go after the terrorists before they attack or do you wait until

they attack and say oh, we need probable cause.

When we passed the PATRIOT Act, this is a side issue, we had a lot of

colleagues from the other side of the aisle say oh, my gosh, what about

civil rights? What about Constitutional rights? The problem is when one

is in a world war against terrorists, one cannot wait until they blow

something up and kill 10 or 15,000 people or more. One tries to preempt

them.

The PATRIOT Act allowed us to hold people while we investigated

whether or not they were going to perpetrate a terrorist attack. If we

did that, we might head it off. That is why we created Homeland

Security, which my committee wrote a great deal of it, and I think the

gentleman, I do not know if

he worked on that or not, but we worked on that with the Senate.

But the fact of the matter is this President did not go off half-

cocked. He declared war on terrorism. He is continuing that. President

Bush is doing a good job.

And I love my colleague from Massachusetts, we have a great deal of

fun together. I love my friend from Hawaii.

The fact of the matter is we are trying to politicize something at

this time that should not be politicized. We are fighting a war against

terrorism. The President is doing the right thing; and this Nation

needs to stand behind him, instead of nitpicking and going back and

saying this should have been done or that should have been.

If we had this kind of nitpicking prior to the invasion of Normandy,

I believe that the media and everybody would have said, oh, my gosh,

that is a terrible thing to do; the waves may be too high. They would

have alerted Hitler, and we may all be speaking German today.

The fact of the matter is, President Bush, in my opinion, and my

colleagues may differ, I think he has been very prudent. He has done

things that he thinks that are necessary to protect the American

people.

I love my colleagues, I really do; and I do want some Macadamia nuts.

Mr. Speaker, I will get together and talk with

my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friends, and I have

great admiration for the silver fox from Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that

eloquent statement.

Let me say that the gentleman from California (Mr. Rohrabacher) will

be going into detail in just a few minutes about the reasons why 9-11

occurred.

And let me say one more thing, Mr. Speaker, and that is if we had had

foresight that Winston Churchill had prior to World War II, we would

have saved 50 million lives. President Bush has that foresight, and he

is doing the right thing right now.