Mr. Speaker, before us tonight is yet another Democrat

plan, a plan for failure. I guess it's really not quite so much a plan

as just a schedule for failure.

It seems ironic to me that when there is actually success, the

Democrats are having a hard time seeing the success. And that's,

perhaps, because the success that is going on in Iraq is not a big

government, Washington, D.C. beltway kind of success. It's not the

Parliament in Baghdad where the success is going on. No, it's a

uniquely American and a special success. It's the success that bubbles

from the hearts of the very people that are involved, from the local

communities, from the streets, and particularly from the sheiks. It's

the kind of thing that happened in America where local communities

stood up against the biggest military power in the world and defended

our declaration in the same way these sheiks now are paying a

tremendous price. One, Sheik Meshin al-Jamari, he was encouraged to

come back from his safe haven in Jordan. He came back to take up

responsibility for his tribal area just to the east of Fallujah. And

what was the cost when he turned on al Qaeda? First, his daughter was

killed, then his brother shot, and then his family rounded up inside a

house in Karma, and the house imploded upon their heads. And yet, that

sheik is standing firm because he does have a vision for the

possibility that there will one day be an Iraq where people can be

free.

Our General Allen was asked by some of the Iraqis in his tribe, they

said, When the British left, they left us a big skyscraper. When

America leaves Iraq, will you leave a skyscraper? And General Allen

said, No. We'll leave the ideas that leave you a free people. And one

day there will be Iraqis who come to us and they will say, Hey, GI Joe,

we believe it too. We believe that there is a God that gives

inalienable rights to all people, the right to life and liberty and the

pursuit of happiness, and we will also stand with you because you have

that hope.

It is my hope that the Americans and the Democrats will rediscover

why we have always gone to war in America, because we do believe in our

battle cry from years ago that there is a God that gives basic rights

to all people and that we must have the courage to stand behind those

things. I hope that the Congress will vote to reject a plan of defeat.