Mr. President, I just returned from my home

State of Florida, and I cannot state the number of people who came up

to me over the course of the weekend to ask me about the situation in

the prison in Baghdad and the question of what should be done with

Secretary Rumsfeld.

My reaction is, we have an ongoing investigation. I would like to see

some more results of that investigation, in addition to what we have

already been shocked within the graphic photographs--although I

understand we have ``not seen nothing yet,'' that we are going to get

more graphic photographs, including some videos that are fairly

descriptive of behavior that is clearly not behavior approved in the

normal course of the standards of Americans.

Of course, offensive conduct by Americans is made all the more

difficult as we are in unsettled parts of the world in a place of Arab

culture and the Muslim religion.

Often, my response has been specifically about Secretary Rumsfeld;

that this issue is much greater than any one Secretary of Defense. The

issue comes down to how America has planned for the postwar occupation.

We did not do a very good job of planning for the postwar occupation.

This Senator happens to be a Democrat from Florida, but that does not

have anything to do with this. What I am about to say is very

bipartisan, or nonpartisan. One of the committees on

which I have the privilege of serving is the Senate Foreign Relations

Committee. The chairman is a Republican and his name is Dick Lugar of

Indiana. He has been saying very similar things to what I am about to

say, as has his ranking Republican member, Senator Chuck Hagel of

Nebraska, and certainly the ranking Democrat and former chairman,

Senator Joe Biden of Delaware. It is this: We had a brilliant military

campaign in Afghanistan and again in Iraq, led, by the way, by a

Floridian, GEN Tommy Franks.

To give credit where credit is due, I include Secretary of Defense

Rumsfeld. He ought to be given credit. It was a brilliant military

campaign, blending the use of military forces--specifically, special

operations forces in Afghanistan--with other agencies, such as the CIA.

The CIA was first in Afghanistan. The first American killed in

Afghanistan was Mike Spann, a CIA agent detailed out of Uzbekistan.

So, too, in the runup to the military campaign in Iraq, a brilliant

military planning in the war effort. We took Iraq in much fewer days

than General Franks had ever planned. Of course, that is what he is

supposed to do as a combatant commander, plan for the worst and be very

conservative in the planning. The military campaign was spectacular.

The problem was, before the war in Iraq, in the Senate Foreign

Relations Committee, over and over we asked the administration--who is

``we''? It is all of those Senators I just talked about, the bipartisan

leadership of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee--asking over and

over, peppering the administration with questions: What are your plans?

Well, we do not have them. Well, bring them to us. And they would come

back with some cursory plan.

Of course, we are now seeing the results.

The prison problems are a manifestation of just one element of the

lack of a plan, of what it is to be an occupier in a Muslim country and

then not planning for the sensitivities of being an occupier in a

Muslim country.

What do we do now? The criminal investigation will go forward. The

rest of the reporting is going to go forward, and we will find out what

to do with regard to the prisons. But what we ought to be doing, and I

think we are hearing this chorus from a number of Members in a

bipartisan way, coming out of the several committees--not the least of

which is the Foreign Relations Committee--the President ought to

convene the major countries of the world, along with the Arab neighbors

of Iraq in the region, and they should forge consensus. When somebody

says that consensus cannot be reached, all you have to do is explain to

those countries it is in their naked self-interest to try to get a

stabilized Iraq.

France, for example, has a Muslim population somewhere between 8 and

12 percent. Convene those nations and then invite in a NATO force led

by the United States. Go to the United Nations, get a senior

international diplomat to come in and start working after June 30 to

build Iraq with the institutions so it can go to elections.

We will be there a long time. Anyone who doubts that, we are in the

ninth year in Bosnia. It will take a lot of troops. Eventually, we will

see our troops will have to be more than what we are planning for now

with the 130,000 that we have there.

With those few short comments prior to the voting on this resolution,

I thank the Senate for the privilege of addressing the Senate.

I yield the floor.