Madam Speaker, first of all, I was watching

the gentleman on television and I agreed with so much of what he said,

in fact, everything that the gentleman said. But one of the things that

concerns me is, while I was watching the gentleman on television, I was

also watching CNN and Fox and watching the news reports on what

happened in Fallujah in Iraq today. And some of the people who have

been commenting on what happened have said, we really out to

reevaluate, we ought to pull our troops out, and they are talking in a

way that will give aid and comfort to the enemies of the free world,

not just the United States, but the free world, and that concerns me a

great deal.

President Bush is doing the right thing, as the gentleman has stated,

in fighting this war against terror and terrorism and terrorists. This

is a world war. And the American people and my colleagues and the media

need to realize, this is a world war not unlike what we faced in World

War I, World War II and so forth. The difference is it is a guerilla-

type war

being fought by fanatics who use people as bombs, who blow up innocent

civilians and kill people, and they are not going to go away.

Madam Speaker, they saw what happened in

Somalia when Black Hawk Down happened, and the previous administration

did exactly what they wanted them to do, and that was to pull out.

Now, that was an encouragement, I believe, to the terrorists around

the world at that point. Now we are in a world war against them. The

President has made a commitment to free the world from terrorism and to

protect the American citizens against another attack like 9/11.

If we want to encourage the terrorists, and I say this to my

colleagues and to the news media and everybody else, if we want to

encourage the terrorists, what we need to do is pull out and give them

the green light to continue to use this kind of terrorist tactic to

dissuade the free world from fighting against this terrorist activity

and we are going to let them have the run of the field. That is

something that we cannot do, we must not do. This is a war that the

free world and the United States cannot lose.

Toward that end, regarding Fallujah and what happened in the last

couple of days and the terrorist attacks in Iraq, what we need to do,

and I would say this if the President were here tonight, what we need

to do is let our troops go in there and go house to house and take

those weapons away to pacify that area. And anyone who has a gun,

arrest them. And anyone who uses weapons in the commission of a

terrorist attack or a crime, arrest them, get them out of there, and

let the people know over there that we are going to do what is

necessary to free them from the terrorist influence. And if we do not

do that, then we are going to continue to encourage them.

So I would say to the President if he were listening tonight, and he

may very well be or his advisors, let us let our troops go in there and

pacify that area. Let us send a very strong signal to the terrorists

and their affiliates over there that we are not going to stand still

and let American citizens be killed or let American military personnel

be killed.

It is extremely important that this signal be sent and sent now,

because if we start listening to the liberals and the media who say,

pull in our horns, let us start regressing and getting out of there,

then what is going to happen is there is going to be a green light to

the terrorists and we are going to have a hell of a problem.

And the gentleman has been to Iraq, and so

have I.

Yes.

Madam Speaker, when I watched the media a

while ago, they showed the people demonstrating in Fallujah and the

cars burning and the people waving the victory sign and everything. I

was there. The gentleman was there. That is the minority of the people.

And the media continues to focus on that, instead of the things that

are being accomplished; and that really, really bothers me.

The other thing is, we have lost about 500 troops over there, and

that is terrible. We do not want to see one young American maimed or

die. But what happened in World War II is that 50 million people were

killed worldwide because we let a war get out of hand. We have an

opportunity right now to win this war on terrorism and to stop the

terrorists and to send a very, very strong signal to them. It is a war

that is going to go on for a long time. But if we do not send the right

signals to them right now, they will be encouraged, in my opinion, and

we will see more death take place that would not be necessary if we did

the right things now.

Yes. Let us back them up in New York or

someplace else.

The gentleman makes a very good point. That is

the kind of thing that the media should focus on. Here is a terrorist

state, a known terrorist state that has said, okay, we are going to

reject terrorism. And the reason was because they saw what we did in

Iraq and Afghanistan. We sent a very strong signal.

We have had 500 troops die there in Iraq. I do not want one of those

troops to have died in vain. They sent a very strong signal around the

world. If the media continues on the path, and I am not talking about

all the media now, but if the more liberal media continues on the path

that it is on saying why should we not bring our troops home, why are

we letting these sorts of things happen, they send a signal, as my

colleague said before, to the terrorists that this sort of thing is

working. That should not be the signal we send.

It was not the signal we sent in World War I or World War II. We

should not send it now. Because this is a world war that the United

States and the free world cannot afford to lose. And we cannot afford

to send signals that encourage the terrorist network.

Let me just say that back in the mid-90s we

knew from intelligence reports that there were terrorist training camps

in and around Khartoum in the Sudan. We knew that. We knew Usama bin

Laden was in Khartoum, and we knew of the terrorist attacks like the

ones that my colleague cited a few minutes ago; and we really did not

go after him, although we should have at that time.

Now, I am not saying there is not enough blame to go around. Any time

you get into a military conflict, especially one this extensive, there

are going to be mistakes made. But the one mistake that has not been

made is by our President. He has done the right thing in taking the

mantle of leadership and moving forward. He is going after the

terrorists wherever they hide in Afghanistan, in Iraq, wherever they

are. And I commend him for that.

And this country, and the media in particular, if they are paying any

attention tonight, the media in particular ought to think about the

ramifications of trying to get us to pull in our horns when we are

fighting a war against terrorism. They should be supporting the effort

to rid the world of terrorists and the terrorist network instead of

pointing out all the deficiencies.

We are in a war against terrorism, one we cannot afford to lose. We

have a man at the helm right now who is doing the right things. And, by

golly, he ought to be supported not just by my colleague and me, but by

the entire country and, in particular, those in the media because they

have such a tremendous influence on public policy.

Madam Speaker, yes, I was there about 3 weeks

ago.

Madam Speaker, if the gentleman would yield.

When I was over there, I am sure my colleague found the same thing,

they had found 400,000 people in unmarked graves. They estimated

between 1 and 1.3 million people that are unaccounted for. They were

putting people in wood chippers, they were raping women. It was

horrible what was going on, the torture and everything.

Madam Speaker, if we did not do anything but

free that country, that would be a great thing. But what we have done

is we have sent a very strong signal to the terrorist network al Qaeda,

the Taliban, the Baath Party in Iraq, and the terrorists around the

world; and what bothers me now is because the media is focusing only on

the negatives and not the positives, not on what we have accomplished

but what we have not yet accomplished and, I believe, maybe

inadvertently, they are giving aid and comfort to the enemy, the

terrorist network, and that is something they should not do.

They may not agree with everything President Bush has done, but they

have to admit that we have gotten rid of Saddam Hussein. We are on the

heels of Osama bin Laden. We have knocked out an awful lot of the

terrorist network, and there have been no more attacks on the United

States of America. That does not mean we will not have them. But there

have been no more attacks. That is because of President Bush, homeland

security, and Tom Ridge, and because they are doing the right things. I

just wish the media would focus on them.

I normally do not come down here and vent my spleen like this. I try

to be a little bit more moderate, if one wants to say that; but right

now I am very, very angry because all we are seeing on the screen right

now is should we be there, should we not be pulling out, should we be

pulling in our horns.

The one thing we must not do, and I am speaking to the media in

particular right now, is we must not send the message that we are going

to withdraw or cave in this war against terrorism. It is essential that

we are victorious. No matter how long it takes, we have to be

victorious. Just like in World War I and in World War II, we have to

win this war, otherwise we are going to suffer terrorist threats and

terrorist attacks for many, many, many years to come.

Madam Speaker, I would like to say something

about what my colleague said a moment ago. He was talking about, in

essence, we cannot look back and talk about the shortcomings. We have

to look forward and say what are we doing now to deal with the problem;

what are we going to do with it in the future.

Bobby Jones, one of the greatest golfers of all time, I will use this

as an analogy, he said, You play the ball where it lies. When he was

hurt, when he was dying and was physically impaired, people said, do

you not feel bad about that? He said, That is life. You play the ball

where it lies.

What we have to do now is realize where we are in this world and what

it is all about. And there is a war against the terrorists that is in

progress, and it is a war we cannot lose. So we have to start here and

go forward. And the President has already started that ball moving in

the right direction by taking on the terrorists, taking on Saddam

Hussein, trying to make sure there are no weapons of mass destruction

that are going to be used against the Middle East or the United States

or the rest of the world. I think we are on the right track.

The thing we have to do now is make sure we keep the American people

with us in this war against terrorism, and that is why the media is so

important. They can play a very valuable role in making sure that the

facts are out there, not opinion; but the facts are out there on what

we have accomplished and where we are going.

As my colleague said, it does not have to be pro-Bush or against

Bush, it just has to be fair reporting. If they report the progress

that is being made and how the war is progressing and what we are

winning instead of just the negatives, I am sure that everything will

come out all right.

One of the things that was reported on briefly

but should have been reported on in more detail was after 9/11 and the

World Trade Center was taken down by the planes, and the Pentagon was

attacked, and they were going to attack the Capitol had it not been for

those heroic people in Pennsylvania that died, but the fact of the

matter is planes coming from Paris, France, and from Europe were

stopped from coming over here because they found out through

intelligence gathering that they had potential terrorists on those

planes that were going to make them into bombs to blow up more

buildings in the United States.

So our intelligence-gathering capability has increased dramatically

since President Bush took office and since Tom Ridge took over homeland

security.

Things are getting better, and we are stopping terrorist attacks, but

those are the things that ought to be reported upon, the things that we

have stopped from happening in the United States to protect the

American people, instead of dwelling just on negatives. If we just do

that, I would be much, much happier.

I just want to say to my colleague, because I am going to leave the

stage back to him, I want to thank you very, very much for taking this

time. We ought to have a whole host of our colleagues down here talking

about this tonight, but you are the guy that did it, and I want to

thank you for carrying the mantle of leadership tonight. You are to be

congratulated.