Mr. Speaker, hopefully, we do a better job of talking

so my colleagues have to do less cleaning up of our messes.

I just wanted to take a moment to talk about the President's speech

in front of the United Nations, especially in relation to the horrific

events that we have seen in Iraq. I think it is very important that we

see that we have two messages, deeply distinct, that are being aimed at

the hearts of the world and our fellow Americans. On the one hand, we

have the President of the United States standing in front of the United

Nations General Assembly and reaffirming this Nation's commitment to

democracy, to liberty and to hope throughout the world. On the other

hand, we have terrorists who, despite whatever political rationale they

put forward, are nothing short of murderers who offer a perpetuation of

evil and horror for their fellow human beings.

It would seem to me today that nothing could more show the stakes in

Iraq, because, despite the panaceas that are proffered by many

politicians, Iraq has two futures. Iraq will be a democracy, or Iraq

will belong to Zarqawi. No amount of international support that is

promised will materialize. It is up to the Iraqi people and America's

coalition partners to ensure that Iraq remains free from any tyrant,

especially the tyrants of terror that are currently exerting their will

in some pockets of the country.

I bring this up because it is important for us here at home to

realize that the gravest threat to the United States of America in the

battle for Iraq is our resolve, as the President has rightly said. For,

as it has been noted often, the war on terror is fought as much on a

map as it is on your mind as a civilian. The images that we see, the

actions that are put forward are designed to terrorize us. And they are

designed to terrorize us so that we can no longer think clearly or

rationally about the situation in Iraq. It is designed so that a

handful of evil people can try to obscure the fact that tens of

millions of Iraqi people are living daily lives and are trying to build

a country and a better future for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, a terrorist attack by one suicide bomber that blows up

47 people standing in line to join in the defense of their country and

the promotion of their future, the story there is not the terrorists,

the suicide, the foreign terrorists destroying innocent life; it is

over 47 people in Iraq were killed to stand in line to defend their

freedom, to fight for a better future for themselves and their

children. And they will keep standing in line, and they will keep

coming. That is the story. It is the resiliency of the Iraqi people,

not the evil of the terrorists who wish to subjugate them once again

and turn Iraq back into a haven for terrorists.

It is the terror that will preclude us from seeing that stark

reality, the reality that we need to see, the reality that the

gentleman from Georgia talked about, the historical examples that have

been put forward by the gentleman from Utah, the rational thought that

is required of us as policymakers and as people of this Nation to

understand not only the stakes but the situation.

As we go forward and as the world looks and has a chance to reflect

upon the message of the terrorists or the message of our President at

the U.N., I think it is also necessary at this time for me to point out

that, at the United Nations, many of those people in that General

Assembly would not be sitting in those seats if their countries were

free and democratic. So to all of those nations, be they free or

democratic in the United Nations, regarding Iraq, I would just like

them to ponder one thing. History may commend them for a reluctance to

wage a war, but history will condemn them for their refusal to win the

peace. And right now, those are the stakes.

I appreciate the opportunity to talk on this issue.