Mr. Speaker, today we will demonstrate that

this Nation is not doomed to repeat the mistakes of the past.

Forty years ago we were in another war. We had lost just about as

many soldiers, about 3,000 young men, at this point in the Vietnam War.

Our President urged the Congress to stay the course so that he could

save face, and the Congress did, as the President demanded, until we

had lost another 55,000 soldiers before we eventually accepted the fact

that it, too, was an inconceivable war.

Today, the Congress is going to end this war, this fiasco that we

never should have begun. It is going to focus on our priorities of

strengthening our military, going after the people who actually did

attack us in 2001 and reinvesting in our nation's true priorities.

We will bring our troops home as soon and as safely as possible. We

will not repeat history. This is an important vote, and all of the

American people should be proud of their Congress.