The Democrats' supplemental bill was a crafty way to quit

in Iraq. Now, certainly each of us individually, and even as leaders

and nations, is tempted at various times in the face of overwhelming

odds to quit and to give up; and yet greatness in leaders and greatness

in nations is frequently measured by a stubborn and cussed

determination to carry on.

We think, of course, immediately of George Washington at Valley

Forge, we think of Winston Churchill challenging the people of England

to rise up and to be strong against the Nazis; he loved to mispronounce

it to bait Hitler. But we also recall in our own history how we were in

Vietnam, how we bombed North Vietnam, and in the observation of

Jeremiah Denton, who was a prisoner of war in Vietnam, how we were just

very close to victory. North Vietnam was about to capitulate because of

the bombing, and then we cut and run.

The test before us today is for the courage and the heart of not just

the Iraqi people, but the American people. What are the measurements we

should be looking at? It is not the day for the sunshine patriot, but

for the cussed and the strong and the brave.