Madam Speaker, 771 days ago, the United States

illegally went to war against Iraq. Since then we have lost 1,574 of

our finest, and the Iraqi people have lost tens of thousands of

innocent civilians to the war. Some of us opposed the war from the

start, but today we all know that America went to war based on false

information given to this Congress and to the American people. Iraq had

no weapons of mass destruction and was not an imminent threat, yet the

war grinds on.

America is building permanent bases in Iraq. The interim government

has no credibility. Under the watchful eyes of our occupying army, the

Iraqi people know full well policy is made in Washington, not Baghdad.

And here in Congress, we move on to other issues, while some are

calling for more troops to move in.

The administration built a theater of war with no exits. It is time

for Congress to build an exit from the Iraqi theater. In the next few

days, I, along with other Members, will submit such a plan.