Mr. President, I earlier came to the floor and spoke of a

statement made on the Senate floor by Senator Ensign. I misread my

notes for that statement. I want to clarify that Senator Ensign did, in

fact, quote me accurately when he said that I had made a statement:

That, in fact, was a statement that I had made. The point I would

like to make at this moment is, that was part of a longer interview. In

the longer interview I raised questions about whether this would be

part of a strategy to bring our troops home. That has been my position

consistently.

My feeling was, if, as we move troops--we recently moved troops--into

Baghdad to protect that city, trying to bring peace to it so our troops

could come home, I could understand that. But I believe today, as I

believed when I made that statement, that whatever movement of troops

we would make would have to be with the clear understanding that our

troops were coming home.

I apologize if my earlier statement suggested that Senator Ensign had

said something different. He did accurately quote me, but the quote

that he used did not accurately reflect my feeling on the entire

situation.

I want to make that clear to Senator Ensign. As I said when I

finished my remarks, my feelings for him are not diminished and my

feelings that this war should end and our troops should come home soon

are not diminished either.