Mr. Speaker, the ship of state sails without a rudder.

Increasingly, the world sees our presence in Iraq as an occupation,

not a liberation. Any talk of democracy has been replaced with images

of brute and brutal force.

The President talks about a superb Cabinet Secretary, but America and

the world reel in horror and shame over what was done in the name of

defending our country.

If only the administration had paid attention. The Red Cross knew,

but the administration would not listen. American leadership and

credibility have cratered deeper and deeper, yet the administration

remains deaf to what happened and the need to act.

The administration heaps praise on one of its own, even as it seeks

to silence the images. They sent him to Iraq, I guess, to get him out

of town, but the images have stirred the world. As it has for so long,

the world looks to America again today. But today, the world looks with eyes averted,

because the images that today define America in no way resemble

America.