Mr. Speaker, the situation in Iraq is more

deadly than ever before. During July and August, 6,600 Iraqi civilians

were murdered by death squads, militias, and insurgents.

Today, it was reported that there are 23 armed and violent militias

in Iraq, some with direct connections to the Iraqi Government officials

and ministries. And we now know our own U.S.

intelligence agencies are reporting that the Iraq war is fueling global

terrorism, making America less safe. After nearly 3\1/2\ years of the

war in Iraq, nearly 2,700 American lives lost, our own independent

government agencies are saying the incompetence of the Bush

administration's Iraq policy is radicalizing and inspiring the creation

of terrorists around the world.

Democrats are focused on fighting the war on terror, not creating

terrorists. Democrats are focused on keeping America secure and

bringing our troops home from Iraq safe and soon.