Madam Speaker, for 6 months now, President Bush has known

that the Iraq war is making our efforts to fight global terrorism more

difficult, yet he refuses to change the course. A top secret National

Intelligence Estimate concluding that the Iraq war has made the overall

terrorism problem worse should have set alarms off in the Bush

administration. The document shows that the President's stay-the-course

strategy in Iraq is only undermining our prospects for winning the

global war against terror.

The Bush administration knew that this was a possibility before it

even went into Iraq. Another intelligence estimate that came out in

January 2003 stated that the approaching war had the potential to

increase support for political Islam worldwide and could increase

support for some terrorist objectives. Yet the administration set aside

these concerns and chose to attack instead.

Today, our Nation is suffering the consequences. As the intelligence

report states, radical Islam has metastasized. It's time for us to stop

the growth of Islamic fanaticism by showing the world that we have no

plans of occupying Iraq indefinitely.