Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Gingrey for leading this

special order hour tonight and for stepping up front to stand up for

freedom and liberty for the American people, for the Iraqi people, and

one day, I hope and pray it is for all people on this planet.

If there was a theme that came out of prime ministers Al-Maliki's

speech today, it was that theme, that theme of freedom and liberty, and

that theme that ties us all together when he told that freedom is not

an American value, but it is a value that God gives to all humanity.

One of the statements that he made, I am not sure if you might have

already made this statement, Mr. Gingrey, but I want to emphasize it.

And this is one that gripped me when I heard it said this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, we must win this battle in this Global War on Terror,

this battleground that is Iraq. There is no alternative but victory. In

fact, we are moving down this path in a successful fashion. You just

cannot simply every day take a measure of it. It is kind of like going

on a diet in the morning and weighing yourself at noon and deciding you

want to change your diet. We need to look at milestones.

There have been milestones after milestones that have flowed out of

Iraq. And there been three elections with 70 percent of the people

going to the polls, more people going to the polls in some of the

elections, than came to the polls in a U.S. national election.

That ought to tell you where their commitment is. And the picture of

the lady with the purple fingers and shining it in victory, that says

what is going on there. It is a very, very proud thing that they

stepped up to freedom.

When I asked them, the Iraqis, are you first an Iraqi, or are you

first a Kurd or a Sunni or a Shiia, invariably they will are ay, I am

an Iraqi first. They want to have a unified nation, they want to have a

free nation, they want to be a free people.

That means the people here in Washington, D.C., the politician all

across America. That means the politicians in western Europe and all

across the world. That means the politicians in Iraq as well. They have

all got to stay in this fight.

Well, no soldier or marine should have to do that. In fact, that is

our job. And we take that on and we put the facts out here on this

floor. And we do so in press conferences. That is our way of fighting

this war.

The object of war, according to Klauswitz is to destroy the enemy's

will and ability to conduct war. The object of war, according to Steve

King is, war is over when the losing side realizes that they have lost.

And if voices come out of this Congress that seek to convince them

otherwise, that works against the cause and does not support our

troops. In the end, it costs American lives. And that has happened. And

the cemeteries have brave Americans that would otherwise be living a

normal life that have given their lives for freedom that would not have

had to, if we stuck together as a people in this country.

But a core of us are together, a majority of us, a vast majority of

us are together and we will stick this out. You know, I would rather be

on this side as I listen to the pessimism that comes sometimes from the

other side of the aisle, then I would be on the other side of this

battle in Iraq. I would a lot rather be on the side of freedom, on the

side of the Iraqi military and the coalition troops than I would be on

the side of al-Qaeda and the terrorists in Iraq.

Just to state that, I believe it was a year ago, it must have been

April of 2004 when Zarqawi wrote a letter, about a 17-page letter full

of lamentations. And he said then this was not like Vietnam, that they

did not have mountains or forests to hide in, the only place they could

hide was in the homes of the Iraqi people that would be willing to take

them in, and the Iraqis that were willing to hide al-Qaeda were, ``as

rare as red sulfur''.

I am just going to presume that red sulfur is quite rare, maybe like

frogs or chickens teeth, but quite rare. I have never seen any red

sulfur over there, and I have looked around quite a lot. I am sure he

meant it was awfully hard to find a place to lay down and get some rest

in a country like Iraq when the people do not want to take in al-Qaeda.

That was a couple of years ago.

Now, Zarqawi has gone on to meet his eternal reward, justly so. And I

have visions of what that might be like for him. But rather than paint

those on

this floor and perhaps be gaveled down, Mr. Speaker, I point out what

it looks today like for the survivors that are still on the side of al-

Qaeda.

How bad must it be over there to try to find optimism when you are

losing as badly as they are. Other folks would like to convince us that

we are losing. In fact, there is nothing that supports that. How bad

are they losing? Well, one of the latest blows to al-Qaeda in Iraq,

this is an excerpt from a May 8, 2006 Associated Press, could not get

more credible than the Associated Press article, about documents

captured during mid-April's raid south of Baghdad.

The highlights of disorganization that already existed in Iraq, and

the disorganization for al-Qaeda and the terrorists that continues to

this day. It is this way. ``Every year is worse than the previous

year''. That is a quote from captured documents of al-Qaeda and the

terrorists. ``Every year is worse than the previous year.''

We will go on with the AP article. The writer complains that the

Americans and the Iraqi government forces were able to absorb our

painful blows, raise new recruits and take control of Baghdad as well

as other areas one another.

There is why every year is worse than the previous year, as far as

the Mujahadin's control and influence over Baghdad, according to the

document that was captured. That should give the American people a

sense of what it is like on the other side, on the losing side.

And if we sang from the same hymnal, sang the same chorus, carried

forth the same message, which is we are in this thing for victory, Iraq

is a battleground in a Global War on Terror, we will stick this thing

out, not only to put this issue away and behind us and make sure that

there is a platform and a climate for freedom for the Iraqi people, but

as far and as long as we have to go so that we can secure the safety

and the security for the American people and for all freedom-loving

people all around the globe.

Today we are watching about the 14th or probably the 15th day of the

battleground in Israel, where they were attacked from both sides, from

the south in Gaza and the north out of Lebanon. By Hamas in the south

and Hezbollah in the north. At the directive and order, I believe, of

the mullahs in Iran and Ahmadinejad.

Because they wanted to change the subject on the United Nations

pressure on Iran for violating nuclear proliferation agreements, and UN

Resolution 1559. So they started a war, and their number one enemy, the

people that Ahmadinejad said should be wiped from the face of the

earth. There is no question that that is their commitment, Mr. Speaker,

to do that.

Iran has been fomenting violence in Iraq for years. And we have

tolerated it far more than we should. And I do not know that we can

resolve the issue in Iraq as long as Iran is sending munitions,

supplies and money and providing training for terrorists to go into

Iraq.

But it is happening. It has been going on for more than 2 years,

perhaps more than 3 years. And there has been a big price paid for

that. Syria also to a lesser extent.

But I don't know anybody that believes that if you could have taken

Syria and Iran out of this equation with Iraq, if the border

essentially had been sealed and they stayed out of that involvement, I

don't know anybody that believes the issue wouldn't have been resolved

in Iraq, that there wouldn't be peaceful passivity there and a solid,

stable government and this economy that is now growing to the point

where they have doubled their GDP since the time of liberation would

have been even greater than it is today. The soil supplies would be

greater. The electrical production would be greater.

But a lot of that progress with that was not yet made in Iraq, has

been held back by the terrorists that are trained and funded and

supported by Iran. And I remember what our President said: If you are

terrorist, you are an enemy. If you support a terrorist, house a

terrorist, fund a terrorist, train a terrorist, you are our enemy. It

doesn't matter where you are or who you are.

Iran fits in that category. Syria fits in that category. Now the

pressure is up, and the world's spotlight, the world stage is Iraq and

Israel.

Now, imagine a free Iranian people, a free Iranian people that next

month, just the fifth of next month, will be celebrating a constitution

that was established, however briefly, 100 years ago that defends their

freedom and their rights the same way that our rights and our freedom

are defended by our Constitution. I will say close to that. They have

something to celebrate.

And as that centennial roles around on August 5, next month, I am

hopeful that will be an inspiration for the Iranian people that one day

soon they can rise up and they can grab ahold of control of Iran and

again be a free people inspired by that constitution from a century

ago, inspired by a free Iraq and a prosperous Iraqi people and inspired

by the potential for a world across the Middle East where all people

breathe free.

If that happens, that has cured the type of habitat that breeds

terror. Freedom doesn't breed terror. Free people never go to war

against other free people. There is a bright future there in that part

of the world. Freedom can echo across those Arab countries the same way

it echoed across Eastern Europe when the wall went down in 1989. That

is my prayer and that is my hope, Mr. Speaker.

I appreciate the gentleman from Georgia yielding to me, and I

appreciate his presentation.

I would absolutely agree.

I think pretty soon fall football practice will start, and I can't

imagine a football coach inviting the other coach in to watch your fall

drills, or ``Here is my playbook. Here is how we run these plays and

here is how I call them.'' You would never do it. You would never sit

down to a poker game and play your hole cards face up.

When you are at war, intelligence is a big part of it. And to be able

to tip your hand to say, no, we are going to pull out of here on such

and such a date, the enemy could go underground, hole up. They could

use that period of time to store more weapons, more ammunitions, do

more training, just stay out of combat; and then, when that moment

comes, come back out of their holes in the ground and turn around and

attack Americans and Coalition troops and Iraqis.

This is such a solid concept that you are addressing here. It is such

a solid concept that I am surprised that there is anyone on the other

side of the aisle that promotes and supports such a thing.

About a week ago, former President Clinton also stood with you on

this issue and with me on this issue on how ridiculous it would be to

establish a date certain to pull out of Iraq.

You illustrated that first year, some months ago, the statement was

made that we should pull troops back to the horizon. Now I envision

that to be kind of back there where the sun sets on the hill or rises

on the hill. Either way it

would be a horizon. And it does turn out that the horizon was Okinawa.

I don't think anybody in the world imagined that the horizon really

meant Okinawa.