

Eleven days earlier, it was reported from the same military sources, a July 13 news release said: "The terrorists are attacking the infrastructure, the children, and all of Iraq," said one Iraqi man who preferred not to be identified. "They are enemies of humanity without religion or any sort of ethics. They have attacked my community today, and I will now take the fight to the terrorists."

These are false statements, obviously, and we continue to be afflicted by propaganda out of this administration to attempt to justify the initial attack, now the occupation, and the ongoing occupation which is increasingly dangerous.

So I commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for what she has done, and the House really needs to pay much more attention to these issues.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURGESS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. NADLER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CAPUANO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HONDA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WATSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WATSON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. CARSON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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THE SITUATION IN IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to stand in solidarity with the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) and other Members who are calling for an end to the U.S. occupation of Iraq. As other Members have stated earlier, I commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for her persistence, for her 100 days of bringing this issue before the American people as she has so clearly articulated the facts as related to our situation in Iraq.

The war in Iraq has become a crisis of global proportions. Every day there are violent attacks on innocent civilians in Iraq and on our service men and women stationed there. We have seen the fact that the President has overstated the situation in Iraq. We are starting to see a backlash around the world. Just recently, Egypt's Ambassador to Iraq was kidnapped and subsequently killed. Algeria's diplomatic staff of only a handful of people have been withdrawn because, even though the North African country has no troops in Iraq, just to represent the current government and recognize it,

two of its staff were kidnapped last week.

The President has overstated the threat that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and biological and chemical weapons in order to frighten the American public into giving him preemptive strike ability and for the support of this war.

The U.S. presence of approximately 150,000 troops in Iraq is fueling our enemies around the world and causing them to rise up against not only Americans, but anyone who supports the American occupation in Iraq. Our presence is not containing violence, it is almost sparking violence. Almost every day there are fatal car bombings and suicide bombings. Men in the military for Iraq are being targeted. Policemen in the service for Iraq are targeted and killed. Diplomats are being targeted and killed.

We cannot ignore that the deadly bombs in London 2½ weeks ago are also inextricably linked to Iraq. We cannot ignore the fact that the insurgents have not been weakened since Congress authorized the President to use force in Iraq in October 2002, almost 2 years ago, nor can we ignore the fact that life for Iraqis under this occupation is far worse than life was before the occupation.

Estimates range between 15,000 and 17,000 innocent Iraqis have died to date. This is not an improvement in the life they had. These are innocent people who now have lost their lives because of the preemptive strike there. At the very least, basic services that we take for granted in the United States, such as electricity, running water and sewage systems, are destroyed and not accessible to all Iraqis.

Even our brave service men and women are suffering. We still hear about some of their needs that are not being met. When I was there earlier this year, soldiers told me about being attacked in unarmed Humvees, and wanted to know why were there not enough armed vehicles to protect them. They showed me a Humvee that is not properly protected and those that are. It is a world of difference.

A March 27 report in USA Today revealed that the Pentagon realized they did not have enough armed Humvees, only 235 in June 2003. We should not plan a war without having the equipment to fight it. Yet more than 2 years later, I was hearing from our young men and women in the service that still the Humvees are not all up to where they ought to be for protection. This means there was poor planning and poor execution of this war, and our troops bear the brunt of the Pentagon's shortsightedness. The President must do more to protect our troops.

Let me ask for the support of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY), H. Con. 35, where she asked for the development of a plan, and I commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for her persistence.