

accomplish that. Piling more debt on top of a crushing burden that is already in place will simply compound Iraq's problems, and I believe undermine that goal of stability there.

Our allies clearly must be generous with their assistance as well, and they must be prepared to write off debts from bad loans to Saddam Hussein in the past. We are working very hard as a country on this, and I am confident that by our example we will encourage that kind of international cooperation.

We have a strategy for success in Iraq. In recent months, we have made steady progress toward our objectives. We just began over the last several days and weeks to hear about those successes. Essential services are being restored, security is improving, and political transformation is underway. Importantly, as we will see in the United Nations in the next several hours, we are reaching out to expand international participation in the rebuilding of Iraq.

America must continue to build on this progress. We simply cannot afford to fail, and indeed we will not fail. If freedom and progress falter in Iraq, terrorists will be emboldened around the world, in the Middle East and elsewhere, threatening innocent lives around the world and America. With success, a free Iraq will send a clear message to the people of the Middle East and beyond that freedom and democracy—not violence, not terrorism—are the best paths for the future.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

THE PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business for up to 60 minutes, with the first 30 minutes of the time under the control of the Senator from Texas, Mrs. HUTCHISON, or her designee and the second 30 minutes of time under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee.

The Senator from Texas is recognized.

IRAQ

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I will say a few words about the supplemental appropriation which the leader just addressed a moment ago and we are addressing all week and also about the ongoing search for weapons of mass destruction.

I was in a Senate Armed Services Committee briefing when Dr. David Kay, one of the leaders of the Iraqi Survey Group, briefed me, and later briefed Congress as a whole, on the ongoing search for weapons of mass de-

struction. In that briefing and in the published statement he made that is now on the CIA Web site, he says:

In searching for retained stocks of chemical munitions, the ISG [Iraqi survey group] has had to contend with an almost unbelievable scale of Iraq's conventional weapons armory, which dwarfs by orders of magnitude the physical size of any conceivable stock of chemical weapons. For example, there are approximately 130 known Iraqi Ammunition Storage Points, many of which exceed 50 square miles—

I had to doublecheck that quote to make sure it was accurate because it boggles the mind.

Continuing—

50 square miles in size and hold an estimated 600,000 tons of artillery shells, rockets, aviation bombs and other ordnance. Of these 130 ASP's, approximately 120 remain unexamined. As Iraqi practice was not to mark much of their chemical ordnance and to store it the same as they would conventional weapons, the size of the required search effort is enormous.

Dr. Kay has a gift for understatement. Having only in this time since the fall of Saddam Hussein been able to examine 10 out of a possible 130 ammunition sites gives an idea of the tremendous task ahead. Perhaps the critics should give some pause about the ongoing search for weapons of mass destruction and the likelihood—indeed, I would say the probability—that we will find those weapons of mass destruction in the end.

The search is ongoing, but we know for certain that 17 U.N. resolutions and numerous inspection missions by the U.N. weapons inspection team from 1991 to 2003 were not sufficient to stop Saddam Hussein. Even though we have not yet found the degree of weapons we anticipated, it is clear Saddam Hussein lied to the world about his arsenal despite all the steps taken by the international community. There have also been significant finds that indicate we have only grazed the surface of Iraq's weapons capabilities.

According to the same report I quoted a moment ago:

The home of an Iraqi scientist brought the discovery of strains of biological organisms, one of which can be used to produce biological weapons. The team found new research on [Biological Weapons]-applicable agents, Brucella and Congo Crimean Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF), and continuing work on ricin and aflatoxin, none of which were made known to the U.N.

It will be many months before we will have a clear picture of the nature and extent of Saddam's weaponry, but already some things are crystal clear.

There are some in this body who have opposed the conflict in Iraq from the beginning. I disagree with them, but they have a right to their views. I am sad to say there are also those who have come close—too close—to exploiting for political gain the hardships we have encountered following Saddam's fall, hardships experienced in serving the cause of freedom. I believe that is wrong and should be repudiated in the strongest terms.

We all know Congress voted overwhelmingly to authorize the President

to use necessary force to remove Saddam's regime in Iraq. Subsequent events, including Dr. Kay's report on behalf of the Iraqi Survey Group, have vindicated that decision. I am also glad to see that today France, Germany, and Russia are planning to support the resolution concerning our efforts in Iraq before the U.N. Security Council. I would only hope the administration's critics in this body would express such strong support as well.

We all know that the great efforts and sacrifices made by our brave men in the coalition forces who ignored the beltway echo chamber and suggestions from the outset of quagmire, the cynical prognosticators who claim that our forces were on the brink of collapse, and the handwringing doubters who said Operation Iraqi Freedom was nothing but a pipe dream—we know these critics were wrong. The dedicated men and women of our coalition forces acted as true professionals. They were interested in actions and not words. We all know they liberated Baghdad in a mere 21 days.

Even in the face of that success, there still are naysayers who refuse to acknowledge the tremendous and dramatic accomplishments we have made as well as the necessity that we finish the task ahead. They are urging in so many words that we abandon Iraq, leaving behind an unstable nation still trying desperately to crawl up from under the rubble of destruction by Saddam's ruthless regime. That is a dangerous and an unwise suggestion.

This mission must end when we complete the task of stabilizing Iraq and we are able to hand power over to leaders who are elected by a free Iraqi people—not before. While we all want to return Iraq to the Iraqi people as soon as possible, and at the same time get our troops back home as soon as possible, these well-intentioned desires should not blind us to our duty to finish the job we started. There is no doubt that the enemies of democracy in Iraq, both inside and outside of that country, will exploit any short-lived commitment.

Indeed, I believe the evidence is overwhelming that the events of September 11 were largely caused by the apparent lack of American resolve to defeat terrorism, and what we are doing today—maintaining our strong resolve and finishing the job that we started in the war against terror in Afghanistan and Iraq—is absolutely essential to our success.

If we leave Iraq prematurely, we will play into the hands of the terrorists and Baathist remnants. They are counting on the resolve of the coalition to falter, freeing them to seek to regain control of this fledgling nation. We must not cut and run and, in so doing, leave the Iraqi people as they are, undefended, or we risk the possibility that the sacrifices that have been made by this Nation, and particularly our military and other coalition forces, will all be for naught.