TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

February 2, 2005 LB 96

I'm not going to fight it in every city, in every village, in every street, in every farm, as Churchill said they would fight against the Nazis, should they invade. But I will fight it at every point that it comes up on the agenda. It is not justified. The state did not put any of these young people in harm's way. Instead of taking the easy road, such as this, why don't other public officials stand as I do and condemn what is happening now and say stop sending those young people over there? I'm the one who was criticized on this floor in the past for saying bring them all home now, and that's before over 1,500 of them were killed. Only a few hundred had been killed then. But we have such superpatriots. Bush said they should go, and they go. He doesn't own me. I still think and I still will Black people have fought in every express my points of view. war this country ever had from the very beginning. Black people fought in this...for this country in wars that it had when white people in this country were attacking this country, but white people have more rights than black people have now or will ever have. Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, who delivered the dreadful Dred Scott decision, said black men have no rights which any white man is bound to respect. That's what was in the opinion. Black people are not, never have been and will not be citizens in this country. He said black people had never exercised any rights of citizenship in this country, which were false. His...those words were false. But he's condemning black people and saying that even if a black man escaped from a slave part of the country and went to a part of the country where slavery was not recognized, that did not allow him to be free. He's still a piece of property. He's still owned, like these tables. black people fought for this country. When black people came back from World War I and World War II wearing uniforms, having fought for this country, fought for democracy, fought the war to end all wars and came back, more of them were lynched in uniform than had been the case when they were not in uniform. And why was that? Because white people said they're getting uppity and they take on airs just because they've fought in the military. The Croix de Guerre, which the French wanted to give, were not to be given to black troops, and that was pursuant to the highest command in this country, because they said we don't treat black men that way in this country and they will get...they will misunderstand. Rommel was a German, but