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operations. He is deciding what the priorities are and what his forces will do, and then he is asking for coalition support for those priorities. And this is exactly what we've been asking Iraqis to do for five years, is to take control. And it just amazes me that some people see what Maliki is doing now as being somehow sectarian or somehow jostling for political strength in the upcoming provincial elections, or some other nefarious thought, when in fact it is the government deciding that it is time to take control of organized force within Iraq. Any government would want to do that. Again, Maliki has grown in office, and he has clearly become a very strong leader, and that is the kind of leader that people in this area of the world admire. Arabs admire strong leaders, and he is turning into one, and were he to back down now, against JAM, it would probably be the end of his administration. The sharks would smell blood in the water and would circle and there would be calls for votes of no confidence and we would be back to December of '07. So, again, I think if you step back and look at this from a longer term perspective, this will be a defining moment, one way or the other, in a unified Iraq that can govern itself and defend itself and care for its own people once it has the security situation in the country in its power to control.

50:40.

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