Mr. Speaker, as the President gets ready to ask this

Congress for an additional $145 billion to fund his efforts in Iraq and

Afghanistan, a new report has come out showing tens of millions of

dollars in wasteful spending by our government in Iraq.

Stuart Bowen, the Special Inspector General for Iraqi Reconstruction,

released his quarterly report last week. It concluded that the $300

billion U.S. war and reconstruction effort is plagued with waste,

spiraling violence, and corruption. Among the worst misuses are $43.8

million for a residential training camp that stands empty, about $4.2

million for 20 VIP trailers and an Olympic-sized pool that was ordered

by the Iraqi ministry of interior.

Perhaps the most disconcerting, however, is that our government spent

$36.4 million for armored vehicles, body armor and communications

equipment that could greatly benefit our troops, but it is completely

unaccounted for. Mr. Speaker, this abusive spending in Iraq must stop

for the American taxpayer and for the troops.