Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, this is not merely a matter of a small number of

individuals who have violated the code of military justice. This is a

disgrace. This country led an international effort to end the regime of

a cruel dictator who abused his people. Now men and women wearing the

American uniform have abused Iraqis.

The injury they have caused does not end with the Iraqi prisoners.

They have

undermined the war effort. They have risked its success as surely as if

they sold military secrets to the terrorists. They have humiliated our

Nation more gravely than mere terrorists ever could. They have

dishonored every brave American soldier who has lost or risked his life

in the war effort and to help the people of Iraq. They have wasted the

effort of those brave Americans who have rehabilitated more than 1,700

schools in Iraq. They have squandered the work of a global coalition

that has delivered more than 25,000 tons of pharmaceuticals and

supplies to health care facilities in Iraq and vaccinated over 70

percent of children in Iraq against polio, tuberculosis, measles, and

diphtheria.

If ever justice could be swift, let it be now. If ever the punishment

could fit the crime, let it be now. If ever our Nation needed the

prayers and support of men and women of goodwill, it is now. The

success and survival of liberty depend upon it.