Mr. Speaker, despite what some on the left may say, we are

making terrific progress in the global war on terror. Last week, U.S.

forces took out al Qaeda's number one terrorist in Iraq who was

responsible for countless murders and terrorist attacks around the

globe. This was an incredible victory for the U.S. military and

intelligence communities. This great accomplishment is concrete

evidence that the Iraqi people are cooperating with our troops. They

are supporting our mission and are demonstrating their desire to be

free.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of our troops for the great strides they

have made. We have crushed Saddam Hussein's brutal dictatorship and

have captured thousands of terrorists. Iraqi children are in school and

Iraqi businesses are prospering. Iraq has had several successful

elections and has formed their government under a new prime minister.

And although it is rarely reported by the media, there is undeniable

progress and hope in Iraq with each new day. The Iraqi people have

proven they long for freedom and will continue to fight the terrorists

by establishing a free, democratically elected government. However, our

work is not done. We must stand firm in this war on terror until the

job is done and until Iraq can defend and govern itself completely.