Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the

resolution, especially to congratulate those millions of Iraqi citizens

who in the face of adversity were willing to stand up and exercise

their right to vote, to establish their own government; and I think

that is something we should be very proud of. But as representatives of

the American people for whose safety we here in this House are

responsible, we had better recognize that there is a global war on

terror being launched against us.

While a major battlefield, Iraq is just one of the battlefields.

Afghanistan is one of the battlefields. Another battlefield was in 1993

when the World Trade Center was bombed with six lives being lost.

Another of the battlefields was June 1996 when the Khobar Towers in

Saudi Arabia were bombed when 19 of our airmen lost their lives.

Another of the battlefields was in August of 1998 when our embassies in

Kenya and Tanzania were bombed, 259 lives lost, 11 of those Americans.

October of 2000, another of the battlefields against terror was the

bombing of the USS Cole off the shore of Yemen. Seventeen American

sailors died, many others injured.

Then was September 11, at the Pentagon, when 189 lives were lost when

the airplane flown by terrorists flew into the Pentagon. Another was

September 11 and the World Trade Center was bombed. Airplanes crashed.

Suicide bombers flew the airplanes, nearly 3,000 people lost their

lives.

Mr. Speaker, this is a global war on terror; and if we do not win the

battle in Iraq, where else might we win it, or where else might we have

to fight it? We had better be sure of what we are doing before we make

a decision that will allow terrorists to regroup, to recover, to rearm,

to retrain and become even a bigger enemy and a bigger threat than they

are today to the security of the American people who we represent here

in this Chamber today.