Mr. Speaker, at a meeting of Republican Members of the

House and Senate this weekend, our distinguished majority leader, who

has just come into the Chamber, reminded us that 24 years ago, on the

20th of January out here on the west front of the Capitol, Ronald

Reagan said,

Mr. Speaker, we also this weekend witnessed the greatest example in

recent times of that when we saw a people who, for a half a century

have been living under repression, having no opportunity to express

themselves, exercised that. The anecdotes are amazing. The story of the

woman who literally gave birth at a voting station and then named her

baby Democracy underscores the kind of success that we are seeing.

It is very clear that self-determination, political pluralism about

which the chaplain just spoke, and the rule of

law are on the move. The Iraqi people are to be both congratulated and

thanked: congratulated, of course, because they are going to be able to

enjoy their success; thanks for the message they are sending throughout

the entire world.