Mr. Speaker, yesterday's New York Times

front page surprisingly detailed some of the progress being made daily

in Iraq. The article described dozens of small-scale construction

initiatives or microprojects that have been under way throughout Iraq.

This includes digging wells to supply water to hundreds in small towns

and helping to restore historic sites that are essential to the local

culture.

This is only a grudging glimpse of the good news that has been taking

place in Iraq since the American military and coalition forces

liberated the nation from Saddam Hussein's tyrannical regime. I have

seen firsthand the positive progress being made in Iraq to build a

civil society which fights terrorist training to protect Iraqi and

American families.

I am encouraged that media outlets, such as the New York Times that

for too long ignored the good news in Iraq in favor of police-blotter

journalism, are now showing limited signs of balanced reporting.

In conclusion, God bless our troops. We will never forget September

11.