Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come to the floor of the House

today to recognize a momentous event and a momentous event that

occurred earlier this week, and I do not think it has gotten sufficient

press and that, of course, was the signing of the Iraqi interim

constitution by the 25 signatories earlier this week.

We heard a lot of information on Friday when the signing was held up,

but the press scarcely reported what will likely be one of the events

that will shape not only the world events around us but shape events

for the next century.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate our President on his leadership

for getting this accomplished. I want to congratulate Ambassador Bremer

in Iraq. I know he is looking forward to the conclusion of his term

there when sovereignty is returned to the Iraqis. They have got a hard

job ahead of them. Four elections within the next year's time will be a

daunting task for them, but they have laid the groundwork. They have

laid the foundation.

Again, congratulations to our President, congratulations on his

leadership for getting this interim constitution signed in a timely

fashion.