I thank the distinguished gentleman for yielding me

this time.

Mr. Speaker, I hear my colleagues now talk about human rights and

brutality, and there is no question about that; but there is human

rights and brutality in many parts of the world, and that has not

caused American troops to intervene in those countries. One year after

the U.S. invasion of Iraq, it is time to focus on the truth. Yet this

resolution leaves out the administration's most important justification

for the war in Iraq, weapons of mass destruction. This administration

systematically misled the American public and Congress into believing

that there were weapons of mass destruction and that we were under an

imminent threat. According to the Carnegie Endowment For International

Peace recent report, the administration systematically misrepresented

the threat from Iraq's weapons of mass destruction by presenting the

case as solid instead of expressing the uncertainty that existed in the

intelligence assessments, and making the threat seem dire rather than

minor by misrepresenting the inspector's findings.

In fact, a report by the minority staff of the Committee on

Government Reform found the administration made over 200 misleading

public statements on the Iraqi threat.

The truth is that this administration will not have the American

people know what really happened with the intelligence until after the

November elections, a year from today. Most importantly, this

Republican Iraq resolution, crafted with no input from Democrats, makes

no mention of the over 565 American men and women who gave their lives

in Iraq to date and over 3,500 others who are wounded. I say we should

honor those who gave their lives, not ignore them. This resolution

should commemorate that ultimate sacrifice.

In the wake of the recent attacks in Spain, it is shameful that

Republicans are acting as dividers, not uniters. It is shameful that

the Republicans without input from Democrats on a crucial resolution

that could express our collective sentiment as we did after September

11 seek partisan gain out of what should be a national embrace.