Mr. Speaker, all too often the voices whining about what

they find wrong with our planning, our troops, or our military tend to

drown out their great successes. But when I went to Iraq, I found our

troops were proud that they had liberated 24 million Iraqi people in

just 3 weeks.

The untold story of Operation Iraqi Freedom were the stories

describing the logistics warriors who not only accomplished

extraordinary things but who were often also put in harm's way to

support the phenomenal contributions of our combat troops. Sometimes we

just assume that food is going to get there and our ammunition is going

to get there, but let me tell you some of the truly amazing logistics

work that occurred during this conflict.

The main supply line stretched 350 miles; and on any given time,

there were 2,500 logistics and support vehicles on the road. There were

2.5 million gallons of gas per day delivered effectively to fly our

aircraft. We built the longest pipeline the Army has ever built, 220

miles long. There were 66,000 pipe sections hand laid to construct that

critical system, and it is still in service today serving the Iraqi

people. We delivered 1.5 million liters of water a day successfully and

effectively. A third of a million meals were served per day. Two

million tons of spare parts and equipment were moved effectively every

day.

In particular, the tremendous effort of the Army's Quartermaster

Corps, the home of which is in Fort Lee, Virginia, are reflected by

these totals from the war: 186 million gallons of fuel, enough to fill

the tanks of 40,000 cars; they served 53 million meals, enough to feed

the entire population of New York State with three meals a day;

provided 330 million gallons of water, enough for a daily shower for

the half million residents of Las Vegas; and delivered nearly 8 million

pieces of mail.

With so much success and such an enormous effort, it should not be

hard to find additional improvements to be made. But, Mr. Speaker, I

think it is only fitting today that we stand up and pass this

resolution to honor their great work.