Mr. Speaker, I thank our very distinguished ranking

member, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Harman), for the time.

Mr. Speaker, we are just about a year to the day that America with

our very brave forces invaded Iraq. So it is coming up to the moment

where we commemorate those that serve, those that did serve and lost

their lives, through a resolution that is on the floor.

This resolution has good parts to it. Of course, we commend our

troops who are second to none. They are the best led, the best

equipped, and the best performing troops in the world, the best

military. But this resolution is not necessarily a celebration, nor

should it be. Because what it does not include are the sacrifices that

have been made: 558 American troops, 101 allied troops, and some 10,000

Iraqi citizens have died since this war began. They are not mentioned

in this resolution.

Where is our commitment in this resolution? It should be stated and

restated in more than one ``whereas'' about the 115,000 troops in Iraq

with all the protective gear that they should have. Nowhere in this

resolution do we affirm or reaffirm our commitment to our troops and

veterans.

Today the House Committee on the Budget cut over $1 billion. So there

is a bit of double speak to this. Nowhere in this resolution are the

people that serve in our intelligence community, some of the most

dangerous jobs that anyone could ever have, are they set apart and

thanked in this resolution relative to Iraq.

Turn on the TV sets. Iraq is not safe. There are more people that

have lost their lives today. There are more fires; there are more blow-

ups. So this is a very sobering resolution. And I think the good parts

of it should be underscored. But we have not been allowed to add to it

the things that I just stated that I think should be very much a part

of it.