Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution

861, a resolution declaring that the United States will prevail in the

Global War on Terror, the struggle to protect freedom from terrorist

adversaries.

This is a critical time in American and world history. Only 5 years

have passed since the al Qaeda network attacked us on our homeland.

Over 3,000 people died on September 11, 2001, and the world as we knew

it changed instantly.

Our principal terrorist enemies seek to establish regimes that rule

according to a violent and intolerant distortion of Islam. As

illustrated by Taliban-rules Afghanistan, such regimes would deny all

political and religious freedoms and serve as sanctuaries for violent

extremists to launch additional attacks--not only against the United

States and its partners but the Muslim world itself.

The enemy uses suicide bombings, beheadings, and other atrocities

against innocents as a means to achieve their dark vision. Their

demonstrated indifference to human life and desire to inflict

catastrophic damage on the United States and its partners around the

world has fueled their pursuit of and intent to use WMD.

We cannot permit the world's most dangerous terrorists and their

regime sponsors to threaten us with the world's most destructive

weapons.

Our national strategy is to stop terrorist attacks against the United

States, our citizens, our interests, and our friends and allies around

the world.

We have and continue to defeat terrorists by attacking their

established infrastructure, such as safe havens, management, power, and

infrastructure. This disruption will naturally force the terrorists to

disperse and decentralize, thereby removing their global influence.

We have and continue to deny terrorists support. Separating

terrorists from their sponsors and support will deny availability of

critical assets needed to plan, train for, and conduct operations.

Denying sanctuary will prevent the terrorists from having the

opportunity to reorganize and reestablish a global threat. A terrorist

that is constantly on the move to survive does not have time to plan or

conduct major operations.

We have and continue to work with the international community to

diminish the underlying conditions that terrorists seek to exploit. It

is in our best interest to continue focusing on resources and efforts

towards at-risk regions to prevent the emergence or the reemergence of

terrorists.

The United States Government, through our dedicated public servants,

courageous men and women in uniform, and attentive intelligence

officers are protecting the United States, our citizens, and our

national interests at home and abroad--24 hours a day, 7 days a week,

365 days a year.

Today, American values, liberty, and lives are still at stake. While

we engage the enemy on foreign soil, we are also simultaneously

establishing homeland defenses, and extending such defenses to identify

and neutralize any emerging threats as early as possible.

The American public is one of the world's most informed societies--

the American people understand that the threat against our Nation and

values are real and imminent.

And to mischaracterize the American people's support for the global

war and the men and women in uniform fighting at the front lines of

this war is unpatriotic and disingenuous. U.S. forces will withdraw

from Iraq as soon as the mission is successfully accomplished. Success

will be achieved when there is a free Iraq in which Iraqis themselves

are sponsors of their own liberty and security. The criteria for

withdrawing Coalition forces from Iraq are conditions based, not

calendar based.

For America will remain the land of the free, home of the brave as

long as Americans are willing to fight for the principles of freedom

and democracy.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 861.