Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman

for yielding me this time. I think it is appropriate on the 1-year

anniversary of the liberation of Iraq

that we focus on that monumental and extraordinary event on the floor

of this House today. The resolution before us congratulates the valiant

men and women of the United States Armed Forces and the Coalition for

having liberated the people of Iraq, and it states that because of that

heroic effort by the Armed Forces of the Coalition and principally the

United States, the world is safer today. The world is safer, Mr.

Speaker.

Each time a dangerous madman is removed from power anywhere in the

world, the entire world is safer because there is one less madman

kidnapping power in a country and holding the entire people of that

country hostage and linking with terrorist groups throughout the world.

Saddam Hussein was not the only dangerous enemy of freedom and peace in

the world; but he was a dangerous enemy of freedom and peace in the

world, and the entire world is safer because Saddam Hussein is gone

from power and facing justice. I would ask the people of Iraq if they

feel safer after having seen the regime deposed or if they do not feel

safer.

The entire world is safer and especially, I believe, Mr. Speaker, the

people of Iraq are safer. Just like we can ask the people of Albania if

they feel safer because Hoxha is no longer in power or in Romania

because Ceausescu is no longer in power or in Russia because Stalin is

no longer in power. I think that we should ask all those peoples if

they believe that they are safer or not safer because their former

totalitarian despots are no longer in power. Or ask the people in

Cambodia if they feel safer because Pol Pot is no longer in power.

Each time a madman is removed from power, not only the people that

that madman had kidnapped and was torturing and oppressing are safer,

the entire world is safer. Or is it that when we talk about Iraq, Iraq

is not on planet Earth? The entire world is safer, but especially the

people of Iraq are safer and the American Armed Forces are the primary

liberators of that people. They deserve the commendation and the

admiration of the entire world and most especially of this House. That

is why I thank the authors for having brought it forward at this

important occasion, the 1-year anniversary of the liberation of Iraq.