Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from

Oklahoma for yielding time, and I rise in support of this rule and the

underlying resolution.

Mr. Speaker, we are engaged in a global war that we did not seek but

that was brought to our shores by actions of terrorists on September

11, 2001. The global war on terror is unlike other past wars. In the

past the United States fought a clear enemy state. Today we fight an

enemy without borders that threatens our free way of life.

When George Washington was elected as our first President, there was

a king in France, a czarina in Russia, an emperor in China, and a

shogun in Japan. The American President was the only elected leader at

that time. Today, countries in every continent elect their own leaders.

The number of democracies currently stands at an all-time high and has

been growing without interruption for some time. Freedom and self-

government is on the march around the world.

Mr. Speaker, why is this important? It is important, Mr. Speaker,

because history has shown that those countries who elect their leaders

are less belligerent than those who do not. Democracy and freedom are a

threat to the terrorist ideology, which is why they fight so hard to

keep self-government from taking hold.

The Middle East is an area where democracy has faced significant

challenge. It is a region where we have seen entrenched dictatorships,

continued violence, and civil unrest.

In an article from the Washington Times on June 12, Mark Stein cites

four separate and recent incidents that took place in Baghdad, London,

Toronto and Mogadishu. He goes on to say, and I quote, ``The world

divides those who think the above are all part of the same story and

those who figure they are strictly local items of no wider

significance.'' I believe that these events are all rooted in the same

ideology, and the United States, as the leader of the free world,

stands in the way of this ideology.

We must not forget the sacrifice our military is making for the

security and support of our ideals. They are fighting the enemy abroad

so we will not have to fight them here. We must continue to support our

troops and stay focused on defeating terrorism in Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, I support this rule and the underlying resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 868 and the

underlying resolution declaring that the United States will prevail in

the Global War on Terror, which is essential to the security of the

American people.

Mr. Speaker, we are engaged in a global war that we did not seek, but

that was brought to our shores by the actions of terrorists on

September 11, 2001. The Global War on Terror is unlike all other wars.

In past wars the United States fought a clear enemy state--today, we

fight an enemy without borders that threatens our free way of life.

When George Washington was elected the first President there was a

king in France, a czarina in Russia, an emperor in China, and a shogun

in Japan. The American President was the only elected leader at the

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In an article from the Washington Times on June 12, Mark Steyn cites

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Toronto and Mogadishu. He goes on to say, ``The world divides into

those who think the above are all part of the same story and those who

figure they're strictly local items of no wider significance . . .'' I

believe these events are all rooted in the same ideology. The United

States as the leader of the free world stands in the way of this

ideology.

Mr. Speaker, this Global War on Terror is protecting the freedoms

that terrorists seek to destroy by any means necessary. Throughout this

war, the terrorists have been emboldened by weakness, but fortunately

it is the brave actions of our military men and women who are proving

to our enemy that America will persevere. We must not forget the

sacrifice our military is making for our security and in support of our

ideals. They are fighting the enemy abroad, so that we will not have to

fight them here.

I am proud of the soldiers from my area in Central Washington who

have stepped forward to defend our nation's security. In addition to

contributing to the Global War on Terror in manpower--my district is

home to the Yakima Training Center--where the soldiers of the Stryker

Brigade train in settings designed to simulate real battlefield

conditions in the War on Terror. They are helping to transform our

military into a force that can meet the readiness demands of this new

conflict.

As our troops employ the latest techniques to combat terrorism in

this modern war--they clearly demonstrate the dedication and honor of

military men and women before them. This has been apparent the two

times I have traveled to Iraq, and when I visit with troops returning

from the front.

Mr. Speaker, the Global War on Terror is not a war we sought, but it

is one we must continue to fight and is vital we win. We face a clear

choice today. Do we back down in the face of a determined enemy for a

temporary reprieve, or do we stand firm and fight the terrorists

abroad? I believe the answer is obvious. We must stand firm on the

Global War on Terror.

While more work remains--thanks to our troops, America is safer.

Saddam Hussein is being brought to justice and Iraq is being stabilized

so that it is not a haven for future terrorist activities. We must

continue to support our troops and stay focused on defeating terrorism

in Iraq and around the world in order to keep American families and

communities safe at home.

I urge my colleagues to support the rule and the underlying

resolution that the United States will prevail in the Global War on

Terror.