Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about something that

Democrats lately seem incapable of speaking about, and that is the

progress that is being made in Iraq.

As of late last month, 210,400 Iraqi security forces have been

trained and equipped. Thirty-six Army battalions and three combat

support battalions are leading the fight in their areas, a 71 percent

increase since March. More than 50,800 Iraqi police have completed the

basic training course.

And, adding to that, the progress of the Iraqi people towards

democracy has been tremendous. They are now holding free elections

instead of the fake ones that Saddam Hussein forced on them for many

years.

Yet, I do not hear many Democrats speak of this progress. All they

talk about is how we are in a ``quagmire'' and that the war has been a

``grotesque mistake.''

Our men and women are not only fighting terrorists over in Iraq, but

they are also setting up roads and schools. But Democrats would rather

have us cut and run and, in the process, undo all the good work that

has been done.