Mr. Speaker, this weekend I had the privilege of leading a

delegation of Republicans and Democrats to Operation Iraqi Freedom, and

despite what you see on television, there is a lot of good news in

Iraq, thanks to American and coalition forces and the good people of

Iraq.

We were in Mosul, the ancient site of the city of Nineva. And where

Mosul, over a year ago, was inflamed with insurgent violence, today

Mosul is secure, thanks to the 101st Airborne, but also thanks to a

local Iraqi police chief who is leading 1,500 Iraqi police into the

streets daily to capture insurgents.

We also met with the new Prime Minister, Nuri al-Maliki, who told us

of his plans to appoint a cabinet maybe as soon as this week, a clear

agenda for stabilizing his country. He greeted us with the words,

It will be our hope and our prayer that the American people will

stand with the good people of Iraq to see freedom's fruition in that

ancient land.