Madam Speaker, night after night we watch the left

come to the floor and beat the drums of retreat on the war on

terrorism. They want us out of Iraq, they want us out of the Middle

East, and they want us to end our aggressive war on terrorism.

I have to admit in my heart I would like to see the troops home, but

my intellect tells me we cannot afford to leave our children a world in

which Middle Eastern terrorists have free reign.

I want our troops to know that they have a grateful Nation behind

them, regardless of what they may hear from some in this body. I want

our Tennessee National Guardsmen, our Fort Campbell families and, as we

approach Veterans' Day, all of our Nation's patriotic veterans to know

we appreciate their service and their commitment.

As of October 4, 2005, a total of 206,500 Iraqi security forces have

been trained and equipped. That is progress, and the American people

can be confident that progress is being made.

So do not believe the ranting of the left when they tell you all is

lost, that hope is pointless and that we are losing. We are not.