Mr. Speaker, the rule of law may finally apply to U.S.

military and civilian commanders running the President's war in Iraq.

The American people may finally learn the truth behind the prisoner

abuse scandal at Abu Ghraib.

A U.S. military judge has ruled that lawyers defending low-ranking

soldiers can question top U.S. commanders. It is the first step in

getting the truth, and it is about time. A lawyer for one soldier

summed up a widely held view: ``No one can suggest with a straight face

that these MPs acted alone.'' Yet that is exactly what this

administration keeps trying to do.

Congress and the American people have heard the tortured logic from

the administration and its spin doctors. No rational person is buying

it.

Those who flaunted the law, regardless of rank in the military or the

administration, must be brought to justice. To rebuild our credibility,

the world must know that we are a nation of laws, not of men and their

ideas.