Madam Speaker, President Bush continues to ignore

reality in Iraq, instead glossing over the deteriorating situation

while asking for more money from Congress and more personal sacrifice

from our troops.

A report released by the White House in July claimed that progress

had been made on eight of the 18 benchmarks mandated by the Congress.

But a new, unbiased report from the GAO shows that the situation is

even worse than the White House led us to believe.

According to the GAO report, Iraq has failed to meet all but three of

the 18 benchmarks required for political and military progress in Iraq.

Some of the report's most disconcerting findings include the fact that

the capabilities of Iraqi security forces have not improved and that

violence remains high.

Madam Speaker, with the release of this discouraging and objective

report, Republicans in this body must decide whether to continue

rubber-stamping the President's failed policy in Iraq or begin working

with Democrats to bring our troops home.