Mr. Speaker, in the midst of our national loss, gain. In

the progress of freedom in Iraq, after months of sacrifice by U.S. and

coalition forces, yesterday the United Nations Security Council agreed

unanimously to a resolution outlining a free and democratic future for

the people of Iraq.

By a 15 to 0 vote, which included France, Germany and Russia, the

United Nations agreed to declare a formal end to occupation on June 30

and set into motion the process of an interim and permanent democracy

in Iraq.

Make no mistake about it, Mr. Speaker, international approval of the

progress of freedom in Iraq is a victory for this President and, I

would add, a fitting tribute to the President in whose memory we will

gather later today.