Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the

resolution (H. Res. 989) commending the United Kingdom for its efforts

in the War on Terror, and for other purposes, as amended.

Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 989, a resolution that I

introduced that commends the United Kingdom for its efforts in the war

on terror and for their work in stopping a terrorist plot in July that

could have resulted in the deaths of thousands of innocent civilians.

Madam Speaker, since the attack on the United States on 9/11, the

United Kingdom has been our closest ally in the war on terrorism. In

this effort, there has been extremely close cooperation between

American and British police and intelligence agencies.

In addition, Britain has stood side by side with us both in Iraq and

in Afghanistan. The British still have more than 7,000 troops in Iraq,

and 118 British soldiers have lost their lives in that war. In

Afghanistan, 40 soldiers from the United Kingdom have been killed

fighting the Taliban and those warlords. Currently, Britain heads the

NATO-led international security assistance force in Afghanistan, and

British troops have been involved in particularly heavy fighting in the

southern part of Afghanistan.

In both of these countries, Iraq and Afghanistan, Britain is the

largest contributor of troops of any country after the United States.

The American people will not soon forget the sacrifice of our British

allies in those wars.

Madam Speaker, H. Res. 989 focuses on the outstanding work of law

enforcement authorities in the United Kingdom in preventing the planned

terrorist attack that would have blown up in midair multiple

transatlantic flights from London to the United States. This plot was

thwarted by British police and intelligence officials on August 10,

2006, with the arrest of 24 people.

In addition, the resolution cites terrorism as a grave concern for

all nations, regardless of boundaries, as terrorist attacks have killed

innocent people in countries such as Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jordan,

Spain, Turkey and, of course, the United Kingdom and here in the United

States.

Britain has been a close, long-time friend of the United States, and

now they are standing with us in the war against terrorism. It is

entirely appropriate for the House of Representatives to recognize

their friendship and contribution in this war.

This resolution was approved unanimously by the Subcommittee on

Europe and Emerging Threats of the House International Relations

Committee on September 20. I would like to thank the subcommittee

chairman, Chairman Gallegly, and the International Relations Committee

chairman, Chairman Hyde, for moving this

resolution very quickly through the committee, and I urge its passage

by the full House.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the support of my good friend from

California (Mr. Lantos).

Madam Speaker, Winston Churchill once said that the United Kingdom

and the United States are two people separated by a common language. As

that may be true, we are not separated but united in our determination

and we speak in concert in our mission, to win this war on

international terrorism.

To the people of the United Kingdom, we, as Americans, are very

grateful for their support.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this resolution.