not suitable for commercial redevelopment. The county needs recreational and community facilities. They cannot obtain grants for these facilities until the site is cleaned up.

The Enviornmental Justice Program can not provide funds for the cleanup in Warren County, the birthplace of the environmental justice movement,

States have Voluntary Cleanup Programs. These progams have limited funds. In North Carolina, the program looks at sites that have serious problems but did not qualify for Superfund and provides oversight for there cleanup. Principal Responsible Parties are sought to participate. If they do not voluntarily participate the state may cleanup the site if funds are avialable.

Federal agencies other than EPA provide cleanup funds if their waste is part of a Superfund Cleanup; 10 percent of the material for the Warren County project came from Ft. Bragg and they have indicated that they will not participate.

The detoxification and redevelopment project in Warren County is not a part of North Carolina's voluntary cleanup program. However, the State of North Carolina has provided over $10 million to date for the project. The estimated total cost is $17.5 million. Based on this the state has provided over 50 percent of the funding rather than the 10 percent they would provide for a Superfund project.

NAGORNO-KARABAKH PEACE PROCESS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD the following letter on Nagorno-Karabakh Peace Process:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 4, 2001.

Hon. COLIN POWELL,
Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY POWELL: I would like to extend my congratulations to you on your appointment earlier this year as our nation's new Secretary of State. Your expertise in international affairs and your prestige among world leaders will undoubtedly serve as an asset to the office and our country.

As a representative of the largest Armenian community outside of Armenia, I am very interested in the recent developments in the Nagorno-Karabakh peace process, as well as U.S. recognition of the Armenian Genocide, and the economic well being of the Republic of Armenia.

Your personal attendance at the talks on Nagorno-Karabakh in Key West, Florida is an indication of the Administration's interest in the region.

I fully agree with your statement expressing our country's commitment to facilitating a mutually acceptable settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. While a lasting peace will serve as a stabilizing force in the Caucasus, I sincerely hope that the history of this region will be an important factor in determining outcomes.

In his attempt to fortify his iron grip over a multiethnic and multicultural society that was the Soviet Union, Joseph Stalin redrew the map of the region to weaken the indigenous populations by carving up ethnically homogeneous republics into unrecognizable autonomous and semi-autonomous regions, such as Nagorno-Karabakh, Nakhichevan and Javakh, all historically Armenian.

The Nagorno-Karabakh peace talks may be our opportunity to correct one of the many historical injustices committed by Stalin.

As a member of the House International Relations Committee, I would greatly appreciate an opportunity to meet with you in the near future to discuss the Administration's policy vis-a-vis the Caucasus. I look forward to hearing from your office regarding a meeting and look forward to working with you on foreign policy issues in the years to come.

Sincerely,

ADAM B. SCHIFF,
Member of Congress.

WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as we speak an intensive two week effort is underway in Geneva to finalize plans for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

The World Conference, to be held in Durban, South Africa on August 31st, is expected to be the most important international meeting on racism ever held.

Given America's tragic history of racial oppression, racism and inequality and the bloody struggles required to end slavery, lynching, Jim Crow, discrimination in employment, education, health care and public accommodations one would assume that America would have some important lessons to share with the international community.

Given the heavy price the world has been forced to pay as a result of the slave trade one would assume that America would be sensitive and responsive to an attempt to clarify that history and examine means of redressing the wrongs of slavery and racism.

Given the ongoing conflicts, and the heritage of conflict, as a result of the exploitation of the third world by the U.S. and other developed nations largely driven by American slave system, driven by the lingering aftereffects of the slave trade one would assume that America would be sensitive and responsive to an attempt to clarify that history and examine means of redressing the wrongs of slavery and racism.

Given the contradictions arising from the international debt crisis, from the process of globalization and trade driven by the great inequalities between the rich nations and the poor nations, one would assume that America would be sensitive and responsive to an attempt to clarify that history and examine means of redressing the wrongs of slavery and racism.

And one would assume that America would feel a powerful sense of responsibility to share those experiences, because we understand the immense human, social and economic costs associated with the evils of racism and discrimination.

Unfortunately, if one were to make those assumptions, one would be wrong . . . our State Department has indicated that the United States will not attend the World Conference unless two items are struck from the proposed agenda: the characterization of Zionism as racism and the issue of reparations for slavery and colonialism.

In international forums from Ireland to the Mideast, from Southern Africa to the Indian sub-continent America has always insisted that problems cannot be solved, that differences cannot be narrowed if we refuse to discuss them.

Suddenly America has become the loner in world diplomacy, insisting that it is our way or no way.

The Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, the Germ Warfare Treaty the Kyoto Global Warming Treaty and now the World Conference on Racism.

What kind of super-power are we?

Are we about democracy, about democratic process, about transparency and mutual self interest.

Or are we about imposing our will on international consultations, about insisting on predetermining the outcomes of discussions between nations?

Only those who fear the outcome of fair and open discussion have reason to refuse to engage in debate and discussion.

I believe we have nothing to fear in openly and honestly exploring history and repudiating racism.

It's time to come to grips with racism and the legacy of racism. It's in our national interest and our international interest.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has corrected defined the problem: we need to ''find way to acknowledge the past without getting lost there; and to help heal old wounds without reopening them.''

If American is serious about its affirmation that racism and democracy are fundamentally incompatible, and I think that we are serious about it, then America must be at the table in Durban, South Africa on August 31st.

If I might paraphrase the words of Abraham Lincoln: America was conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men and women are created equal. Now, we are being tested as to whether this nation, or any nation, so conceived and so dedicated can long endure.

Mr. Speaker, I am optimistic that America, and the world, are firmly on the road to ending racism and resolving the lingering and persistent after effects of this great distortion of all human, civil and economic rights.

Mr. Speaker if we are to continue down that road, we must not, we cannot fail this great test.

Mr. Speaker, in the interests of all humankind let us hope and pray that America will not turn its back on the World Conference on Racism.