

our strategy is going to be post-June 30. We have a hostage being held in Saudi Arabia, al Qaeda is in its height of activity, bloodshed is occurring in Baghdad and around Iraq on a most frequent basis. Conflict has not yet been resolved, and there is, I believe, confusion within the Defense Department, the leadership, Secretary Rumsfeld whom we have asked on repeated occasions to resign in light of Abu Ghraib and the continued abuses that we hear of, and the lack of direction. There is no response from the administration. That is, I think, intolerable.

Let me also ask of the administration, as we have asked those of us who are aware of the crisis in Sudan that we should not stand by and watch as we watched in Rwanda. We know that some 40,000 people are now being displaced. Even while the government out of Khartoum is negotiating a peace treaty in Kenya, we know that violence has broken out again. Children are dying, women are being mutilated and raped and brutalized, and there is Muslim on Muslim murder, Arab Muslims, the rebels killing and destroying villages where black Muslims live. There may be no peace, there cannot be any peace until this matter is resolved.

The Congressional Black Caucus, and I wish to express my appreciation to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) for his leadership; we expect to meet with the U.N. envoy to Sudan to be able to get a full and direct explanation as to why the Government of Sudan cannot immediately cease this violence. That is the concern I have when the United States has immersed itself in conflicts that it cannot get out of. That means that when there is a need for humanitarian aid for our military personnel to be able to save lives, we are so stretched that we cannot do it.

I might say to my colleagues as we are about to meet and greet again the President of Afghanistan and thank him for his great leadership, he too needs our additional assistance as we begin to move toward an election in September. Greater assistance is needed for our troops who are there in Afghanistan, and some of their actions have been actually forgotten, because we will be moving to an election; and it will be difficult in Afghanistan in order to provide for the safety and security of those voters and those who will be registering to vote.

So, Mr. Speaker, what I am concerned about is the fact that we are so immersed in the conflict, it seems frustrating, confusing, and unending in Iraq, we then leave ourselves vulnerable to not being able to provide assistance to the people in Afghanistan, moving toward a peaceful election and certainly the crisis, brutality, and murder in Sudan, would leave us simply crying and wallowing in our own tears, because every day, 30,000 people are being killed in Sudan.

So I ask the administration to give us some direction in Iraq, let the Con-

gress know just what the road map is, because the killing by insurgents is not something that we should tolerate. Give us some direction in Afghanistan to know that we have the amount of troops there to provide for the safe and secure voting and elections and people being allowed to register without being killed and intimidated and frightened away from registering to vote. Women should not be kept away from voting.

Then of course in Sudan, it cannot be another Rwanda; it cannot show itself to be a continuing killing field. One million in Rwanda, 2 million already dead in Sudan, thinking that we have a peace treaty but, in fact, we should say to America, we do not.

I know that my colleagues are sympathetic to the idea that when brutality and murder go on innocent people, and it is happening in Sudan. I would ask the administration now to make a strong and potent statement, Secretary Powell, in order for the Government of Sudan to immediately cease this kind of bloodshed going on. While they give the impression that they are engaging in peace treaties in Kenya, people are dying in their country, and it is becoming a killing field, and we cannot tolerate it and we must not tolerate it.

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So we ask not only for mercy, we ask for relief. So we ask for this Congress and this administration to become engaged.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4503, ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2004, AND H.R. 4517, UNITED STATES REFINERY REVITALIZATION ACT OF 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (during the special order of Mr. HENSARLING), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-539) on the resolution (H. Res. 671) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4503) to enhance energy conservation and research and development, to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes, and for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4517) to provide incentives to increase refinery capacity in the United States, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4513, RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT SITING IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2004 AND FOR H.R. 4529, ARCTIC COASTAL PLAIN SURFACE MINING IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (during the special order of Mr. HENSARLING), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-540) on the resolution (H.

Res. 672) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4513) to provide that in preparing an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement required under section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 with respect to any action authorizing a renewable energy project, no Federal agency is required to identify alternative project locations or actions other than the proposed action and the no action alternative, and for other purposes, and for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4529), to provide for exploration, development, and production of oil and gas resources on the Arctic Coastal Plain of Alaska, to resolve outstanding issues relating to the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, to benefit the coal miners of America, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

MORNING AGAIN IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I need not state that last week was a very, very trying, yet very moving week for many Americans because we said goodbye to one of the greatest Presidents I believe in the history of America, and certainly one of the greatest that I have known in my life time, President Reagan. And I think many Americans recall so much about the President, about how he loved freedom and how optimistic he was.

There is a phrase that many people associated with President Reagan when he ran for reelection in 1984, and that phrase was, It is morning again in America.

Well, America has faced a significant economic challenge over the last several years, and that is we have faced a recession. Many people have been hurt by this recession and jobs were lost and businesses were padlocked. But I have to tell you, we have come out of the darkness. We are coming into the light. When we look the at our national economy, again it is morning in America.

One of the proudest days I have had as a Member of United States Congress was the day that I signed my name, co-authored President Bush's economic growth program. Now, that was a program that was all about tax relief, tax relief for American families, tax relief for small businesses, because we know that when you let families and businesses, the American people keep more of what they earn, they will roll up their sleeves. They will work hard. They will create new businesses. They will go out and open an automobile transmission shop on one street corner. They will open a barbecue stand on another corner. They will expand a mobile home business two blocks away.