

DIVISION B—CONTINUING RESOLUTION,
2007

The conference agreement includes division B making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for those departments and agencies for which appropriations will not be enacted into law before October 1, 2006.

BILL YOUNG,
DAVE HOBSON,
HENRY BONILLA,
R.P. FRELINGHUYSEN,
TODD TIAHRT,
ROGER F. WICKER,
JACK KINGSTON,
KAY GRANGER,
RAY LAHOOD,
JERRY LEWIS,
J.P. MURTHA,
NORMAN D. DICKS,
MARTIN OLAV SABO,
PETER J. VISCLOSKEY,
JAMES P. MORAN,
MARCY KAPTUR,
DAVID OBEY.

Managers on the Part of the House.

TED STEVENS,
THAD COCHRAN,
ARLEN SPECTER,
PETER V. DOMENICI,
CHRISTOPHER BOND,
MITCH MCCONNELL,
RICHARD C. SHELBY,
JUDD GREGG,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
CONRAD BURNS,
DANIEL K. INOUE,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
PATRICK LEAHY,
TOM HARKIN,
BYRON L. DORGAN,
DICK DURBIN,
HARRY REID,
DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
BARBARA A. MIKULSKI

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DENT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken tomorrow.

CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT TO
TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO
HELP IMPROVE THE SECURITY
SITUATION IN DARFUR, SUDAN

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 723) calling on the President to take immediate steps to help improve the security situation in Darfur, Sudan, with a specific emphasis on civilian protection, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 723

Whereas the United States Congress and the President are on record as declaring that the atrocities being committed in Darfur, Sudan are genocide;

Whereas the United States has demonstrated leadership on the Sudan issue for years, including by mediating Sudan's

North-South Peace Agreement, by declaring genocide in Darfur, by providing nearly \$1 billion in humanitarian assistance over time, and by having United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations John Bolton, in his first action as President of the United Nations Security Council, request in February 2006 that United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan initiate contingency planning for a transition from the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) to a United Nations peacekeeping force;

Whereas the African Union deployed AMIS to Darfur to monitor the violence and, in spite of attacks on AMIS observers and the fact that the recently improved AMIS mandate still does not provide sufficiently for proactive protection of civilians, AMIS has been successful in creating pockets of security for displaced persons simply through its presence;

Whereas the N'Djamena Ceasefire Agreement of April 8, 2004, the Abuja Protocols of November 9, 2004, and the Darfur Peace Agreement of May 5, 2006, have not resulted in a cessation of hostilities in Darfur;

Whereas the Government of Sudan and its armed militia groups continue to commit crimes against humanity and engage in genocidal acts in Darfur, in spite of the presence of AMIS forces, and, in early September 2006, launched a major offensive in Darfur, in direct violation of the Darfur Peace Agreement;

Whereas United Nations Secretary-General Annan has indicated that, "People in many parts of Darfur continue to be killed, raped, and driven from their homes by the thousands";

Whereas it has been reported that an estimated 300,000 to 400,000 people have died in the conflict-affected area of Darfur and eastern Chad, and due to the number of areas that cannot be accounted for, the total number of deaths may be higher;

Whereas the ongoing assault against civilians by Sudanese Government forces, Janjaweed militias, and rebels necessitates the deployment of a larger, more capable international peacekeeping force with a strong mandate to protect civilians in Darfur;

Whereas, although the United Nations Security Council approved Security Council Resolution 1706 (August 31, 2006) which provides for the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping mission in Darfur to include up to 22,500 personnel, the Government of Sudan has rejected the terms of such Resolution and alternatively issued an ultimatum to AMIS to extend its current mission beyond September 2006 without transitioning to a United Nations peacekeeping force; and

Whereas on the same day on which the Government of Sudan issued its ultimatum, the African Union stated that it would quit the war-ravaged Darfur region if the Government of Sudan did not allow a United Nations peacekeeping force to take over AMIS: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) for its actions in monitoring the N'Djamena Ceasefire Agreement in Darfur and its role in diminishing some acts of violence;

(2) strongly condemns the continued genocide and violence directed against civilians in Darfur by the Government of Sudan and government-sponsored militias, as well as attacks perpetrated against civilians by rebels in Darfur;

(3) calls upon all parties to the N'Djamena Ceasefire Agreement—

(A) to abide by the terms of the N'Djamena Ceasefire Agreement and the Darfur Peace Agreement; and

(B) to engage in good-faith negotiations to end the conflict in Darfur;

(4) calls upon the Government of Sudan immediately—

(A) to comply with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1706 (August 31, 2006), support the transition of AMIS to a United Nations peacekeeping mission, and facilitate the deployment of United Nations peacekeepers throughout Sudan toward that end;

(B) to withdraw all offensive military aircraft and personnel from the region;

(C) to cease all support for Janjaweed militias and rebels from Chad; and

(D) to disarm all Janjaweed militias;

(5) calls upon the international community to provide sufficient funding to support the AMIS mission as it transitions to a United Nations peacekeeping mission;

(6) calls on the African Union to work closely with the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to strengthen its capacity to deter violence and instability until a United Nations peacekeeping force is fully deployed in Darfur;

(7) calls on NATO to extend its current mission of advisors to the African Union, as requested by the leadership of the African Union;

(8) urges the President to take steps immediately to help improve the security situation in Darfur, including by proposing that NATO support an interim civilian protection force with sufficient ground and air assets under centralized planning, direction, and control, to protect civilians and facilitate the deployment of United Nations peacekeepers in Darfur;

(9) calls upon NATO allies to support such a NATO mission;

(10) calls upon NATO headquarters staff to begin prudent planning in advance of such a NATO mission; and

(11) urges the President to take immediate steps to work through diplomatic channels to obtain the support of the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and United States allies in the Arab League to secure the compliance of the Government of Sudan with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1706 and support full funding for the United Nations peacekeeping force in Sudan.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as may consume.

Mr. Speaker, 14 months ago, Greg Simpkins on our International Relations staff and I visited Darfur and met some of the heroic survivors of genocide at two camps, Mukjar and Kalma. When the helicopter landed at the remote Mukjar camp, thousands of women and children danced, clapped and sang beautiful traditional African

songs. The people of Darfur have a remarkable generosity and spirit, and it was awe-inspiring.

At first glance, most of the people had a superficial glow of physical wellness, thanks in large part to the brave NGO workers bearing food, clothing and medicine. However, now even those necessities are disappearing due to the insecurity in the camps, further exacerbating the genocide with even more starvation and more disease.

In addition to the horrific loss of life in Darfur, estimated to be at upwards of 400,000 dead and 2 million displaced, I was struck by the appalling fear and trepidation that is ever present, just below the surface, just below the smiles that greet any visitor. Among the refugees and IDPs, emotional woundedness and brokenness is everywhere.

Like you and me, Mr. Speaker, all that the wonderful people of Darfur want is to love God and their families and friends and earn a living and to live in peace. Yet they have had atrocities imposed upon them that no human being should ever have to bear. Just about everyone that we spoke with, especially the women, told us personal stories of rape, senseless beatings and massacres by the Janjaweed and by Sudanese militias.

On that same trip, Mr. Speaker, I also met with Sudanese President Omar Hassan El-Bashir at his presidential suite in Khartoum. Perhaps like some others before me and after me, I pushed hard for the end of genocide. I argued, if peace and a fledgling reconciliation was achievable in southern Sudan, the other genocide that killed 2 million people and displaced 4 million, why not peace in Darfur?

The exchange was not encouraging. All Bashir wanted was to talk about ending U.S. trade sanctions, not the horrific loss of life.

Mr. Speaker, the very important resolution before us today, authored by my good friend and colleague, Mr. LANTOS, H. Res. 723, reflects congressional concern about the recent escalation of violence in Darfur and the government of Sudan's continued refusal to create a permissive environment for the deployment of United Nations peacekeepers. It also speaks to the fear that a security vacuum could be left in Darfur if the African Mission in Sudan, AMIS, is not immediately reinforced and transitioned to a larger, more capable UN peacekeeping mission.

On August 31, Mr. Speaker, the administration's skillful and resolute efforts to build international consensus on the need for action in Darfur resulted in the passage of Resolution 1706 by the United Nations Security Council. This urgently needed resolution approved a robust peacekeeping force for Darfur of up to 22,000 soldiers and police officers to relieve a severely undermanned and overfatigued African Union mission which has valiantly struggled against acute disadvantages to maintain some level of protection for innocent civilians.

Still, every day it becomes clear that the government of Sudan is more interested in imposing its own solution in Darfur than in pursuing a swift and lasting resolution to the conflict. Even as the UN Security Council's Resolution 1706 was being debated, the Sudanese government was preparing a major military offensive in Darfur, in direct violation of a peace agreement that it signed on May 5. And despite the government's agreement to accept the deployment of UN peacekeepers in Darfur upon conclusion of the Darfur Peace Agreement, the government then turned around and categorically rejected the passage of Security Council Resolution 1706, renouncing the UN mission as a "western invasion of Sudan" and threatening attacks against peacekeepers.

H. Res. 723, Mr. Speaker, calls upon the Sudanese government to comply immediately with UN Security Council Resolution 1706, to support the transition of AMIS to a U.S. peacekeeping mission and to facilitate the deployment of UN peacekeepers. It also demands that the Sudanese government immediately withdraw all offensive military aircraft and personnel from the region, cease all support for the Janjaweed militias and rebels from Chad and disarm the Janjaweed militias themselves.

H. Res. 723 makes clear that the deployment of a capable UN force is our paramount objective, but also calls on the African Union to work closely with UN and NATO to strengthen its capacity to deter violence in the Darfur region during the interim. And while the resolution does not suggest the introduction of U.S. Armed Forces, it does call upon the President to continue urging NATO to extend and expand upon the support it currently is providing to AMIS.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bipartisan resolution, and I urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished Democratic whip and a strong voice on all human rights issues.

Mr. HOYER. I thank my friend Mr. LANTOS, and I want to thank my friend Mr. SMITH as well. Mr. SMITH and I had the honor of co-chairing, he was in the minority at that point in time and I was chairing the Helsinki Commission, but there was no distinction in terms of party. Mr. SMITH has been a strong and compelling voice on human rights.

Mr. LANTOS, my friend of over a quarter of a century, has been a giant on behalf of peace and security and human rights, and I am honored to support his resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support the bill before us offered by my good friend, the ranking Democrat on the International Relations Committee. It calls on the President to take immediate steps to improve the security situation in Darfur, Sudan.

Mr. Speaker, for 3 years the world has turned effectively a blind eye to the genocide in Darfur, the vast region in Western Sudan; a blind eye not because we did not hear and not because we did not see, but because we have not acted.

Already more than 200,000 civilians have died and more than 2.5 million have been driven from their homes as a result of violent warfare between the government-sanctioned Janjaweed and the disparate rebel groups. Frighteningly, Mr. Speaker, a report in the Washington Post just 2 weeks ago suggested these numbers could indeed be higher, maybe even double the figures I have just cited.

Did we not learn anything from the lessons of Bosnia, Kosovo, Rwanda and other places in Africa? Did we not learn the consequences of our negligence in the 1930s? We watched in horror as troops in blue helmets in Bosnia stood by and witnessed the rape, murder and displacement of thousands.

I don't know how many people, Mr. Speaker, saw Hotel Rwanda. Nick Nolte played the colonel. As Rwanda was imploding and thousands were being murdered, the manager of the Hotel appealed to Nick Nolte, the colonel, in charge of the UN troops, "Do something." And his sad response was, "My duty is to watch and report. I neither have the troops nor the power to intervene."

Clearly, Mr. Speaker, the situation in Darfur is the world's worst current human rights crisis. There are others, of course, of significant magnitude, but this clearly is currently the worst.

We must do more to stem the violence. The measure offered by Mr. LANTOS as well as those offered by Chairman HYDE and Congressman WOLF are a good start. Mr. SMITH's leadership on these three bills is appreciated by all.

Chairman HYDE's bill is the long-awaited Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, which already passed this Chamber once with my support; and I am pleased to support it again. The bill includes key sanctions, provisions and authorizes the support for an expanded African Union mission in Sudan.

A year-and-a-half ago, maybe 2 years ago now, I had a discussion with Secretary Powell about supporting the contingent from the African Union. In fact, we have done that. Moneys have been made available, as has equipment.

H.R. 723, introduced by Congressman LANTOS, goes even further, insisting that the President do more to improve the security situation in Darfur by calling for an interim NATO civilian protection force. That was similar to what we did in Bosnia.

Finally, we are considering here H. Res. 992, calling on the President to appoint a special envoy for Sudan. Recognizing that the President appointed former USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios to the job last week, I nevertheless intend to support the resolution. By doing so, I believe we send a

strong message to the President that he should have long ago designated such an envoy, and I applaud him for doing so now. It is never too late to do the right thing.

July, 2004, this Chamber voted unanimously to declare the crisis in Darfur a genocide. July, 2004. July, 2004. Twenty-seven months later, thousands of souls murdered, hundreds of thousands ripped from their home and their security.

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And we continue to talk. For more than 2 years we have stood by as the situation deteriorated and ignored the mounting casualty and dislocation rates.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, the case of Darfur is yet another demonstration of the international community's collective lack of will to confront those who would commit such horrific acts of cowardice.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the world needs the United Nations. I believe that we need a collective organ for international security and stability. But if that organ cannot act either because the Security Council permanent members veto such action or because of the lack of will of that body, then others must act. If morality plays any part in the consideration of the policies of this country and the civilized countries of this world, there is no course but to act.

I congratulate my friend and a great leader of this House, the gentleman from California, Mr. LANTOS, for his leadership on this critically important issue.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and yield myself such time as I might consume.

First, I would like to thank my chief cosponsor, Congressman JOSEPH PITTS, and the other 116 cosponsors of this resolution who, along with me, continue to demand action to protect civilians and stop the genocide in Darfur.

Mr. Speaker, as we meet here today, the Sudanese Government has launched a new brutal campaign against innocent civilians in Darfur. The only troops standing in their way are the understaffed and underfunded African Union Monitoring Force. But even the days of the African Union forces are numbered. Their mission is scheduled to end in 3 short months, leaving the people of Darfur completely unprotected. I fear, Mr. Speaker, that a full-scale onslaught mass murder against the civilians is imminent.

The signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement on May 5 of this year seemed to offer a ray of hope that the darkest days were behind the innocent men, women, and children of Darfur. But immediately after the negotiators left Abuja with the peace agreement signed and sealed, the security situation in Darfur began to deteriorate. In characteristic fashion, the Sudanese

Government launched a massive and indiscriminate assault on civilians, humanitarian efforts, and the rebel forces.

Nearly 1 month ago, the United Nations Security Council authorized the deployment of 22,500 military and police into the Darfur region. To no one's surprise, Khartoum rejected the proposed deployment, and instead launched into unspeakable vitriol against the world community, threatening a terrorist war against the peacekeepers and, in a sickening anti-Semitic rant, invoked a Jewish conspiracy behind the international humanitarian movement to save Darfur. To counter the deployment of U.N. peacekeepers, Khartoum said it would send 30,000 of its own troops to Darfur to protect civilians.

Mr. Speaker, as a Holocaust survivor, I cannot think of more despicable cruelty than to have Khartoum send its armed forces who have raped, tortured, and slaughtered thousands and displaced 2 million to protect civilians in Darfur.

In the past few weeks, the government has escalated its campaign of death in Darfur. Bombers, attack helicopters, and Arab militias have been deployed in a new campaign of terror.

Just recently, the government unleashed its forces on Tawilla Town and seven nearby villages, forcing thousands of residents to flee. The barbed wire fence surrounding the nearby African Union peacekeeping base provided scant protection for terrified civilians fearing for their lives.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the international community to put words into action whether or not Khartoum agrees to a U.N. peacekeeping force. The international community knows full well that Khartoum should not be given a choice whether to stop the genocide. If necessary, an enforced civilian protection regime must be put in place.

I concluded 2 years ago when I first called for NATO's support to the African Union to protect civilians in Darfur that diplomacy does not move the leaders in Khartoum. The Sudanese Government must be made to understand that there will be severe consequences for further genocidal assaults on the people of Darfur.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 723 calls on the world to put actions behind words and to undertake civilian protection once and for all by supporting the transition of the African Union mission to the United Nations and for NATO to broaden its support. The genocide in Darfur is not just an African crisis; it is a crisis of all humanity and obligates all of us to act with urgency.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2¼ minutes to our colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER), a bold fighter for human rights.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of both H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace Accountability Act of 2006, which was debated earlier, and of H. Res. 723, the bill presently before us. But even stronger steps must be taken if we hope to save the people of Darfur.

Lack of decisive action and follow-through by the international community has made it possible for the genocide in Darfur to continue unabated. The government-backed Janjaweed militia continues to terrorize the Darfurees on the ground while the Sudanese Government itself wages an aerial assault on the region. Officials in Khartoum have been allowed to deflect the clear urgent need for U.N. peacekeepers in Darfur by raising sovereignty claims.

We should commend the African Union for extending its mission in Darfur through the end of the year and for announcing plans to increase the number of troops in Darfur. However, without international support, the African Union will remain powerless to stop the slaughter.

For months, the poorly trained and underequipped African Union force has operated without mandate or means to protect the civilians in Darfur from the ongoing slaughter. Because of its ineffectiveness up to now, the Sudanese Government clearly wants the African Union to remain in place, but, equally clearly, not if they have the mandate or the means to be effective.

President Bush, working with our allies, must take the lead in holding the Sudanese accountable for their actions and send a clear message to the Sudanese Government that it will not be allowed to systematically and indiscriminately kill its own citizens using tactics of terror.

If the Sudanese Government does not withdraw all military aircraft from the region, as this resolution requires, then NATO should immediately coordinate and enforce a no-fly zone over Darfur. Ultimately, the Sudanese Government must agree as U.N. peacekeepers as authorized by the Security Council, or have them imposed. Appeasing the officials has not worked and will not work. It is time for a stronger approach in Darfur, an approach with resolve and the means to finally stop the killing.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to my friend from Texas, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, an eloquent voice for human rights.

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Despite the hour, Mr. Speaker, I believe that these initiatives offered by Mr. LANTOS, Mr. PAYNE, and others are probably the most important work that we will do this week. It is that way because we are talking about absolute slaughter. And I thank the gentleman for his leadership in recognizing the horror of the Khartoum government.

And let me just recite for my colleagues the sheer arrogance of the leadership in Khartoum that after the comprehensive peace agreement between the Government of Sudan and others, the Government of Sudan refused a proposal from the Sudanese Peoples Liberation movement to send joint troops to protect civilians and disarm the government-supported militia.

Now, who can understand that? You have a peace agreement, and you only ask the government to adhere to the peace agreement and they refuse to adhere to the peace agreement by providing protection to the civilians. And so this particular legislation is crucial because it provides for NATO support and it provides for the African Union troops to be able to provide security for the area.

It is unbelievable that the President of Sudan would reject U.N. peacekeepers. U.N. peacekeepers come to keep the peace; they do not provoke the government.

And I simply want to share with you the sheer crime of what is going on. Take, for example, the Hashaba camp near the small village of Mersheng in southern Darfur. Each shelter contains a family that has fled the home after terrifying attacks by militia groups. An estimated 1.2 million people in Darfur have been forced from their homes by the fighting and attacks. They are urgently in need of outside help.

Their housing is made of sticks and rags. These are shelters in name only. Against the rains that are beginning to sweep Darfur, they offer no protection. Until recently, no help was available in the camps. The conflict made the region too dangerous for aid agencies to access it. And we know that we have lost humanitarian aid workers in the last couple of weeks.

This is what we are facing in Sudan. Now aid is obviously beginning to trickle in, but Mr. LANTOS is right, until we secure the region, no amount of agreements and treaties are going to work. The slaughter will continue.

And so I want to support H. Res. 723 that calls on the African Union to work closely with the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to strengthen its capacity to deter violence and instability until the United Nations peacekeeping force is fully deployed in Darfur. Minimally, minimally the government of Khartoum has to have a sense of mercy for people who are living in the devastating conditions and violence that these refugees are now living in. I ask my colleagues to view this legislation as crucial not in passage but also in its implementation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 723, which calls on the President to take immediate steps to help improve the security situation in Darfur, Sudan, with a specific emphasis on civilian protection.

The genocidal regime in Sudan has left 2.5 million people displaced and at least 400,000 people dead in Darfur. Due to increasing vio-

lence, 15,000 innocent civilians continue to die each month. Genocide cannot continue on our watch; the United States must move towards effective action against this most terrible crime. The United Nations Secretary General has described the situation in Darfur as "little short of hell on earth." Expert John Prendergast calls it "Rwanda in slow motion." The United States Congress and Administration are on record as declaring that the atrocities being committed in Darfur, Sudan are genocide.

Until the security situation vastly improves, the people of Sudan will experience increasingly long-term adversity. Civilians can't plan on stability in the future. They can't grow crops, or raise livestock, if there is a likelihood—not a chance, a likelihood—that roving government-sponsored militias will beat, rape, or kill them if they wander outside the protection of makeshift camps. And these government-sponsored criminals burn fields the people have managed to grow, and steal or slaughter the livestock the people have managed to keep.

Over 400,000 people have died in the Darfur conflict since 2003, with 3.5 million people driven into hunger, and another 2.5 million displaced due to violence. Imagine if the entire city of Las Vegas had perished at the hands of government-sponsored bandits, the population of Los Angeles was starving, and both the cities of Houston and Atlanta had all relocated due to conflict. The upheaval of the South after Hurricane Katrina is our closest reference to understanding the devastation Sudan is experiencing, and yet the scale in Sudan is overwhelming. We should all be quaking with anger.

Human rights are not for any government to give and take—they are inherent, self-evident, and vital, as our founding fathers understood so well. We should not be complacent when such rights are violated or refused—we must use what power we have to ensure that people are free to live and thrive safely.

The United States has demonstrated leadership on the Sudan issue for years by: mediating Sudan's North-South Peace Agreement, declaring genocide in Darfur, providing nearly \$1 billion in humanitarian assistance over time, and having United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations John Bolton, in his first action as President of the United Nations Security Council, request in February 2006 that Secretary-General Annan initiate contingency planning for a transition from AMIS to a United Nations peacekeeping operation.

Our role is clear, and we must do what we can to alleviate the desperation of the civilians caught in the mayhem in Sudan. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield the balance of my time to the ranking member of the African Subcommittee, my good friend from New Jersey, Congressman PAYNE.

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Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me once again thank Mr. LANTOS for House Resolution 723, calling on the President to take immediate steps to help improve the security situation in Darfur.

Let me just say that things are getting worse. Increased rapes, 500 rapes over the summer in one camp alone; re-

newed attacks; 12 humanitarian workers killed, including two of the last 6 weeks; 26,000 Sudan armed forces headed to the Darfur region for major offensive; renewed aerial bombings; the Darfur Peace Agreement not being held to by the government of Sudan; continued integration of the Janjaweed into the Sudan armed forces.

United Nations Security Resolution 1706 says that 17,300 U.N. troops and 3,300 policemen should go into Darfur. I think we should urge the U.N. to fulfill this mandate.

President Bush did not ask Aided to go into Somalia. President Clinton did not ask Milosevic to go into Bosnia. We should not wait for a murderous leader like Bashir to invite us in.

We should even create no-fly zones where we would do as we did in Iraq. A no-fly zone means you don't go in and you don't go out. We were able to protect the Kurds in southern Iraq through all those years of the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein.

We can do the same kind of no-fly zone. You don't use one single human being in a no-fly zone when you use drones and other kinds of sophisticated weaponry. We have to take out some antonovs, destroy some helicopters, and let Bashir know we are not playing.

I think if we sent that message there, you would see that this opposition to the United Nations would simply disappear. They are only bold when they are with unarmed civilians, weak women, small children, elderly men. That is when they show how strong and powerful they are. I think that we should go in.

The United Nations already has U.N. troops in the Sudan. It is simply expanding the mandate that is already there. I commend the President for appointing Andrew Natsios as the Presidential Special Envoy, and I think that is even more significant than the special envoy in the past. I urge passage of this resolution.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank members of my staff who worked so hard on this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H. Res. 723, which urges the President to take steps to improve the security situation in Darfur, Sudan. This resolution urges the President to propose that NATO implement an interim civilian protection force in Darfur and request supplemental funding to support the African Union Mission in Sudan and a NATO mission in Darfur.

Members of Congress already have done everything we can possibly do to stop the genocide in Darfur.

Members of Congress have written numerous letters to the Bush Administration and the United Nations urging action to end this genocide.

We have visited the United Nations and met with Secretary General Kofi Annan.

I wrote to the President back in 2004 and implored that he take action.

In July of 2004, I sent letters to the other members of the United Nations Security Council urging that the United Nations take action

to end the slaughter in Sudan; this letter was signed by 41 Members of Congress, including my good friend from across the aisle, Congressman SPENCER BACHUS.

On April 28 and again on May 16, several of my colleagues were arrested in front of the Embassy of Sudan, protesting this genocide.

Last April, Members of Congress sent a letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice expressing our support for the appointment of a Special Envoy for Sudan. Last week, President Bush finally appointed a Special Envoy for Sudan. This is a good first step, and we appreciate it, but a single administrative appointment will not put an end to a genocide.

Early this year, I traveled to Sudan as part of a bipartisan congressional delegation led by my good friend from California, Minority Leader NANCY PELOSI. We visited the refugee camps. As far as the eyes could see, there were crowds of displaced people who had been driven from their homes, living literally on the ground with little tarps just covering them. It is unconscionable that this should continue.

Also last April, the House of Representatives passed HR 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, by an overwhelming vote of 416 to 3. This bill would impose sanctions on the government of Sudan and block the assets and restrict travel for individuals who are responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity in Darfur. Last Thursday, the Senate passed this bill, and the House is acting on the final version today. Hopefully, the President will sign it into law.

More than 450,000 people have died since 2003 as a result of the genocide in Darfur. There are 2.5 million displaced people in camps in Darfur and another 350,000 in refugee camps in neighboring Chad. Almost 7,000 people are dying every month in Darfur. There can be no doubt that what is taking place in Darfur is genocide and the Government of Sudan is responsible.

The world stood by and watched the genocide that occurred in Rwanda. The world has noted over and over again the atrocities of the Holocaust. Yet we cannot seem to get the President and the international community to move fast enough to stop the genocide that is taking place in Darfur.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and I urge the Bush Administration and the United Nations to put an end to these crimes before millions more men, women and children are allowed to die.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 723, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on that, I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 5631, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

Mr. GINGREY (during consideration of H.R. 3127) from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-677) on the resolution (H. Res. 1037) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 5631) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2679, VETERANS' MEMORIALS, BOY SCOUTS, PUBLIC SEALS, AND OTHER PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF RELIGION PROTECTION ACT OF 2006

Mr. GINGREY (during consideration of H.R. 3127), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-678) on the resolution (H. Res. 1038) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2679) to amend the Revised Statutes of the United States to eliminate the chilling effect on the constitutionally protected expression of religion by State and local officials that results from the threat that potential litigants may seek damages and attorney's fees, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 403, CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT

Mr. GINGREY (during consideration of H.R. 3127), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-679) on the resolution (H. Res. 1039) providing for consideration of the Senate bill (S. 403) to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

DARFUR PEACE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2006

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3127) to impose sanctions against individuals responsible for genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, to support measures for the protection of civilians and humanitarian operations, and to support peace efforts in the Darfur region of Sudan, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:
Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

Sec. 3. Findings.

Sec. 4. Sense of Congress.

Sec. 5. Sanctions in support of peace in Darfur.

Sec. 6. Additional authorities to deter and suppress genocide in Darfur.

Sec. 7. Continuation of restrictions.

Sec. 8. Assistance efforts in Sudan.

Sec. 9. Reporting requirements.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AMIS.—The term "AMIS" means the African Union Mission in Sudan.

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives.

(3) COMPREHENSIVE PEACE AGREEMENT FOR SUDAN.—The term "Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan" means the peace agreement signed by the Government of Sudan and the SPLM/A in Nairobi, Kenya, on January 9, 2005.

(4) DARFUR PEACE AGREEMENT.—The term "Darfur Peace Agreement" means the peace agreement signed by the Government of Sudan and by Minni Minnawi, leader of the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army Faction, in Abuja, Nigeria, on May 5, 2006.

(5) GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN.—The term "Government of Sudan"—

(A) means—

(i) the government in Khartoum, Sudan, which is led by the National Congress Party (formerly known as the National Islamic Front); or

(ii) any successor government formed on or after the date of the enactment of this Act (including the coalition National Unity Government agreed upon in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan); and

(B) does not include the regional government of Southern Sudan.

(6) OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN.—The term "officials of the Government of Sudan" does not include any individual—

(A) who was not a member of such government before July 1, 2005; or

(B) who is a member of the regional government of Southern Sudan.

(7) SPLM/A.—The term "SPLM/A" means the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) On July 23, 2004, Congress declared, "the atrocities unfolding in Darfur, Sudan, are genocide".

(2) On September 9, 2004, Secretary of State Colin L. Powell stated before the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, "genocide has occurred and may still be occurring in Darfur", and "the Government of Sudan and the Janjaweed bear responsibility".

(3) On September 21, 2004, in an address before the United Nations General Assembly, President George W. Bush affirmed the Secretary of State's finding and stated, "[a]t this hour, the world is witnessing terrible suffering and horrible crimes in the Darfur region of Sudan, crimes my government has concluded are genocide".

(4) On July 30, 2004, the United Nations Security Council passed Security Council Resolution 1556 (2004), calling upon the Government of Sudan to disarm the Janjaweed militias and to apprehend and bring to justice Janjaweed leaders and their associates who have incited and carried out violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, and establishing a ban on the sale or supply of arms and