

And just last night, a deputy press secretary at the Department of Homeland Security was arrested on charges that he used the Internet to seduce what he thought was a 14-year-old girl. Fortunately, an undercover deputy sheriff detective was on the other end of the computer and Brian Doyle, a Bush political appointee, has now been arrested.

Madam Speaker, the culture has changed around here, that is for sure, but certainly not for the good.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). 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 later today.

DARFUR PEACE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2006

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass 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, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3127

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

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. Multilateral efforts.
- Sec. 8. Continuation of restrictions.
- Sec. 9. Assistance efforts in Sudan.
- Sec. 10. Reports.
- Sec. 11. Rule of construction.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

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

(2) **GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “Government of Sudan” means the National Congress Party, formerly known as the National Islamic Front,

led-government in Khartoum, Sudan, or 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), except that such term does not include the regional Government of Southern Sudan.

(B) **OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN.**—The term “Government of Sudan”, when used with respect to an official of the Government of Sudan, does not include an individual—

(i) who was not a member of such government prior to July 1, 2005; or

(ii) who is a member of the regional Government of Southern Sudan.

(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 Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) in Nairobi, Kenya, on January 9, 2005.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) On July 22, 2004, the House of Representatives and the Senate declared that the atrocities occurring in the Darfur region of 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 been committed in Darfur,” and “the Government of Sudan and the [Janjaweed] bear responsibility—and genocide may still be occurring”.

(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, 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 related materiel of all types, including the provision of related technical training or assistance, to all nongovernmental entities and individuals, including the Janjaweed.

(5) On September 18, 2004, the United Nations Security Council passed Security Council Resolution 1564, determining that the Government of Sudan had failed to meet its obligations under Security Council Resolution 1556, calling for a military flight ban in and over the Darfur region, demanding the names of Janjaweed militiamen disarmed and arrested for verification, establishing an International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur to investigate violations of international humanitarian and human rights laws, and threatening sanctions should the Government of Sudan fail to fully comply with Security Council Resolutions 1556 and 1564, including such actions as to affect Sudan’s petroleum sector or individual members of the Government of Sudan.

(6) The Report of the International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur, submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General on January 25, 2005, established that the “Government of the Sudan and the Janjaweed are responsible for serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law amounting to crimes under international law,” that “these acts were conducted on a widespread and systematic basis, and therefore may amount to crimes against humanity,” and that Sudanese

officials and other individuals may have acted with “genocidal intent”.

(7) The Report of the International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur further notes that, pursuant to its mandate and in the course of its work, the Commission had collected information relating to individual perpetrators of acts constituting “violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including crimes against humanity and war crimes” and that a sealed file containing the names of those individual perpetrators had been delivered to the United Nations Secretary-General.

(8) On March 24, 2005, the United Nations Security Council passed Security Council Resolution 1590, establishing the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), consisting of up to 10,000 military personnel and 715 civilian police tasked with supporting implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan and “closely and continuously liais[ing] and coordinat[ing] at all levels with the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) with a view towards expeditiously reinforcing the effort to foster peace in Darfur”.

(9) On March 29, 2005, the United Nations Security Council passed Security Council Resolution 1591, extending the military embargo established by Security Council Resolution 1556 to all the parties to the N’djamena Ceasefire Agreement of April 8, 2004, and any other belligerents in the states of North Darfur, South Darfur, and West Darfur, calling for an asset freeze and travel ban against those individuals who impede the peace process, constitute a threat to stability in Darfur and the region, commit violations of international humanitarian or human rights law or other atrocities, are responsible for offensive military overflights, or violate the military embargo, and establishing a Committee of the Security Council and a Panel of Experts to assist in monitoring compliance with Security Council Resolutions 1556 and 1591.

(10) On March 31, 2005, the United Nations Security Council passed Security Council Resolution 1593, referring the situation in Darfur since July 1, 2002, to the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court and calling on the Government of Sudan and all parties to the conflict to cooperate fully with the Court.

(11) In remarks before the G-8 Summit on June 30, 2005, President Bush reaffirmed that “the violence in Darfur is clearly genocide” and “the human cost is beyond calculation”.

(12) On July 30, 2005, Dr. John Garang de Mabior, the newly appointed Vice President of Sudan and the leader of the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) for the past 21 years, was killed in a tragic helicopter crash in southern Sudan, sparking riots in Khartoum and challenging the commitment of all Sudanese to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan.

(13) Since 1993, the Secretary of State has determined that the Republic of Sudan is a country which has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism and, pursuant to section 6(j) of the Export Administration Act of 1979, section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act, and section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, designated Sudan as a State Sponsor of Terrorism, thereby restricting United States assistance, defense exports and sales, and financial and other transactions with the Government of Sudan.

SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the genocide unfolding in the Darfur region of Sudan is characterized by acts of terrorism and atrocities directed against civilians, including mass murder, rape, and sexual violence committed by the Janjaweed and associated militias with the complicity and support of

the National Congress Party-led faction of the Government of Sudan;

(2) the Secretary of State should designate the Janjaweed militia as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act;

(3) all parties to the conflict in the Darfur region have continued to violate the N'djamena Ceasefire Agreement of April 8, 2004, and the Abuja Protocols of November 9, 2004, and violence against civilians, humanitarian aid workers, and personnel of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) is increasing;

(4) the African Union should rapidly expand the size and amend the mandate of the African Union Mission in Sudan to authorize such action as may be necessary to protect civilians and humanitarian operations, and deter violence in the Darfur region without delay;

(5) the international community, including the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the European Union, and the United States, should immediately act to mobilize sufficient political, military, and financial resources to support the expansion of the African Union Mission in Sudan so that it achieves the size, strength, and capacity necessary for protecting civilians and humanitarian operations, and ending the continued violence in the Darfur region;

(6) if an expanded and reinforced African Union Mission in Sudan fails to stop genocide in the Darfur region, the international community should take additional, dispositive measures to prevent and suppress acts of genocide in the Darfur region;

(7) acting under Article 5 of the Charter of the United Nations, the United Nations Security Council should call for suspension of the Government of Sudan's rights and privileges of membership by the General Assembly until such time as the Government of Sudan has honored pledges to cease attacks upon civilians, demobilize and demilitarize the Janjaweed and associated militias, and grant free and unfettered access for deliveries of humanitarian assistance in the Darfur region;

(8) the President should use all necessary and appropriate diplomatic means to ensure the full discharge of the responsibilities of the Committee of the United Nations Security Council and the Panel of Experts established pursuant to section 3(a) of Security Council Resolution 1591 (March 29, 2005);

(9) the United States should not provide assistance to the Government of Sudan, other than assistance necessary for the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan, the support of the regional Government of Southern Sudan and marginalized areas in northern Sudan (including the Nuba Mountains, Southern Blue Nile, Abyei, Eastern Sudan (Beja), Darfur, and Nubia), as well as marginalized peoples in and around Khartoum, or for humanitarian purposes in Sudan, until such time as the Government of Sudan has honored pledges to cease attacks upon civilians, demobilize and demilitarize the Janjaweed and associated militias, grant free and unfettered access for deliveries of humanitarian assistance in the Darfur region, and allow for the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons;

(10) the President should seek to assist members of the Sudanese diaspora in the United States by establishing a student loan forgiveness program for those individuals who commit to return to southern Sudan for a period of not less than five years for the purpose of contributing professional skills needed for the reconstruction of southern Sudan;

(11) the President should appoint a Presidential Envoy for Sudan with appropriate resources and a clear mandate to provide steward-

ship of efforts to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan, seek ways to bring stability and peace to the Darfur region, address instability elsewhere in Sudan and northern Uganda, and pursue a truly comprehensive peace throughout the region;

(12) to achieve the goals specified in paragraph (10) and to further promote human rights and civil liberties, build democracy, and strengthen civil society, the Presidential Envoy for Sudan should be empowered to promote and encourage the exchange of individuals pursuant to educational and cultural programs, including programs funded by the Government of the United States;

(13) the international community should strongly condemn attacks against humanitarian workers and demand that all armed groups in the Darfur region, including the forces of the Government of Sudan, the Janjaweed, associated militias, the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A), the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), and all other armed groups refrain from such attacks;

(14) the United States should fully support the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan and urge rapid implementation of its terms; and

(15) the new leadership of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) should—

(A) seek to transform the SPLM into an inclusive, transparent, and democratic body;

(B) reaffirm the commitment of the SPLM to bringing peace not only to southern Sudan, but also to the Darfur region, eastern Sudan, and northern Uganda; and

(C) remain united in the face of efforts to undermine the SPLM.

SEC. 5. SANCTIONS IN SUPPORT OF PEACE IN DARFUR.

(a) BLOCKING OF ASSETS AND RESTRICTION ON VISAS.—Section 6 of the Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-497; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in the heading of subsection (b), by inserting “OF APPROPRIATE SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE SUDANESE GOVERNMENT” after “ASSETS”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (c) through (e) as subsections (d) through (f), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) BLOCKING OF ASSETS AND RESTRICTION ON VISAS OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS IDENTIFIED BY THE PRESIDENT.—

“(1) BLOCKING OF ASSETS.—Beginning on the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006, and in the interest of contributing to peace in Sudan, the President shall, consistent with the authorities granted in the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), block the assets of any individual who the President determines is complicit in, or responsible for, acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in Darfur, including the family members or any associates of such individual to whom assets or property of such individual was transferred on or after July 1, 2002.

“(2) RESTRICTION ON VISAS.—Beginning on the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006, and in the interest of contributing to peace in Sudan, the President shall deny visas and entry to any individual who the President determines is complicit in, or responsible for, acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in Darfur, including the family members or any associates of such individual to whom assets or property of such individual was transferred on or after July 1, 2002.”.

(b) WAIVER.—Section 6(d) of the Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act of 2004 (as redesignated by subsection (a)) is amended by adding at the

end the following new sentence: “The President may waive the application of paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (c) with respect to an individual if the President determines that such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States and, prior to exercising the waiver, transmits to the appropriate congressional committees a notification which includes the name of the individual and the reasons for the waiver.”.

(c) SANCTIONS AGAINST CERTAIN JANJAWEED COMMANDERS AND COORDINATORS.—The President should immediately consider imposing the sanctions described in section 6(c) of the Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act of 2004 (as added by subsection (a)) against the Janjaweed commanders and coordinators identified by the former United States Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes before the Subcommittee on Africa of the House International Relations Committee on June 24, 2004.

SEC. 6. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES TO DETER AND SUPPRESS GENOCIDE IN DARFUR.

(a) UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT AMIS.—Section 7 of the Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-497; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) by striking “Notwithstanding” and inserting “(a) GENERAL ASSISTANCE.—Notwithstanding”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT AMIS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President is authorized to provide assistance, on such terms and conditions as the President may determine and in consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, to reinforce the deployment and operations of an expanded African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) with the mandate, size, strength, and capacity to protect civilians and humanitarian operations, stabilize the Darfur region of Sudan and dissuade and deter air attacks directed against civilians and humanitarian workers, including but not limited to providing assistance in the areas of logistics, transport, communications, materiel support, technical assistance, training, command and control, aerial surveillance, and intelligence.”.

(b) NATO ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT AMIS.—The President should instruct the United States Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States at NATO to advocate NATO reinforcement of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS), upon the request of the African Union, including but not limited to the provision of assets to dissuade and deter offensive air strikes directed against civilians and humanitarian workers in the Darfur region of Sudan and other logistical, transportation, communications, training, technical assistance, command and control, aerial surveillance, and intelligence support.

(c) DENIAL OF ENTRY AT UNITED STATES PORTS TO CERTAIN CARGO SHIPS OR OIL TANKERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President should take all necessary and appropriate steps to deny the Government of Sudan access to oil revenues, including by prohibiting entry at United States ports to cargo ships or oil tankers engaged in business or trade activities in the oil sector of Sudan or involved in the shipment of goods for use by the armed forces of Sudan until such time as the Government of Sudan has honored its commitments to cease attacks on civilians, demobilize and demilitarize the Janjaweed and associated militias, grant free and unfettered access for deliveries of humanitarian assistance, and allow for the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to cargo ships or oil tankers

involved in an internationally-recognized demobilization program or the shipment of non-lethal assistance necessary to carry out elements of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan.

(d) PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES IN VIOLATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 1556 AND 1591.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—Amounts made available to carry out the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) may not be used to provide assistance (other than humanitarian assistance) to the government of a country that is in violation of the embargo on military assistance with respect to Sudan imposed pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1556 (July 30, 2004) and 1591 (March 29, 2005).

(2) WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of paragraph (1) if the President determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that it is in the national interests of the United States to do so.

SEC. 7. MULTILATERAL EFFORTS.

The President shall direct the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations to use the voice and vote of the United States to urge the adoption of a resolution by the United Nations Security Council that—

(1) supports the expansion of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) so that it achieves the mandate, size, strength, and capacity needed to protect civilians and humanitarian operations, and dissuade and deter fighting and violence in the Darfur region of Sudan, and urges Member States of the United Nations to accelerate political, material, financial, and other assistance to the African Union toward this end;

(2) reinforces efforts of the African Union to negotiate peace talks between the Government of Sudan, the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A), the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), and associated armed groups in the Darfur region, calls on the Government of Sudan, the SLM/A, and the JEM to abide by their obligations under the N'Djamena Ceasefire Agreement of April 8, 2004 and subsequent agreements, urges all parties to engage in peace talks without preconditions and seek to resolve the conflict, and strongly condemns all attacks against humanitarian workers and African Union personnel in the Darfur region;

(3) imposes sanctions against the Government of Sudan, including sanctions against individual members of the Government of Sudan, and entities controlled or owned by officials of the Government of Sudan or the National Congress Party in Sudan until such time as the Government of Sudan has honored its commitments to cease attacks on civilians, demobilize and demilitarize the Janjaweed and associated militias, grant free and unfettered access for deliveries of humanitarian assistance, and allow for the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons;

(4) extends the military embargo established by United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1556 (July 30, 2004) and 1591 (March 29, 2005) to include a total prohibition on the sale or supply of offensive military equipment to the Government of Sudan, except for use in an internationally-recognized demobilization program or for non-lethal assistance necessary to carry out elements of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan; and

(5) calls upon those Member States of the United Nations that continue to undermine efforts to foster peace in Sudan by providing military assistance and equipment to the Government of Sudan, the SLM/A, the JEM, and associated armed groups in the Darfur region in violation of the embargo on such assistance and equipment, as called for in United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1556 and 1591, to immediately cease and desist.

SEC. 8. CONTINUATION OF RESTRICTIONS.

(a) CONTINUATION OF RESTRICTIONS.—Restrictions against the Government of Sudan that were imposed pursuant to Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997 (62 Federal Register 59989), title III and sections 508, 512, 527, and 569 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2006, or any other similar provision of law, shall remain in effect and shall not be lifted pursuant to such provisions of law until the President transmits to the appropriate congressional committees a certification that the Government of Sudan is acting in good faith to—

(1) peacefully resolve the crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan;

(2) disarm, demobilize, and demilitarize the Janjaweed and all government-allied militias;

(3) adhere to United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1556 (2004), 1564 (2004), 1591 (2005), and 1593 (2005);

(4) negotiate a peaceful resolution to the crisis in eastern Sudan;

(5) fully cooperate with efforts to disarm, demobilize, and deny safe haven to members of the Lord's Resistance Army; and

(6) fully implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan without manipulation or delay, including by—

(A) implementing the recommendations of the Abyei Commission Report;

(B) establishing other appropriate commissions and implementing and adhering to the recommendations of such commissions consistent with the terms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan;

(C) adhering to the terms of the Wealth Sharing Agreement; and

(D) withdrawing government forces from southern Sudan consistent with the terms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan.

(b) WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of subsection (a) if the President determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that it is in the national interests of the United States to do so.

SEC. 9. ASSISTANCE EFFORTS IN SUDAN.

(a) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.—Section 501(a) of the Assistance for International Malaria Control Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) by striking “Notwithstanding any other provision of law” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law”;

(2) by inserting “civil administrations,” after “indigenous groups,”;

(3) by striking “areas outside of control of the Government of Sudan” and inserting “southern Sudan, southern Kordofan/Nuba Mountains State, Blue Nile State, and Abyei”;

(4) by inserting at the end before the period the following: “, including the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Assistance may not be obligated under this subsection until 15 days after the date on which the President has provided notice thereof to the congressional committees specified in section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2394-1) in accordance with the procedures applicable to re-programming notifications under such section.

“(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The notification requirement of subparagraph (A) shall not apply in the case of assistance subject to notification in accordance with section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 pursuant to any provision of an Act making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs.”.

(b) EXCEPTION TO PROHIBITIONS IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 13067.—Section 501(b) of the Assist-

ance for International Malaria Control Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “EXPORT PROHIBITIONS” and inserting “PROHIBITIONS IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 13067”;

(2) by striking “any export from an area in Sudan outside of control of the Government of Sudan, or to any necessary transaction directly related to that export” and inserting “activities or related transactions with respect to southern Sudan, southern Kordofan/Nuba Mountains State, Blue Nile State, or Abyei”; and

(3) by striking “the export or related transaction” and all that follows and inserting “such activities or related transactions would directly benefit the economic recovery and development of those areas and people.”.

SEC. 10. REPORTS.

(a) REPORT ON AFRICAN UNION MISSION IN SUDAN (AMIS).—Section 8 of the Sudan Peace Act (Public Law 107-245; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) REPORT ON AFRICAN UNION MISSION IN SUDAN (AMIS).—In conjunction with reports required under subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report, to be prepared in conjunction with the Secretary of Defense, on—

“(1) efforts to fully deploy the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) with the size, strength, and capacity necessary to stabilize the Darfur region of Sudan and protect civilians and humanitarian operations;

“(2) the needs of AMIS to ensure success, including in the areas of housing, transport, communications, equipment, technical assistance, training, command and control, intelligence, and such assistance as is necessary to dissuade and deter attacks, including by air, directed against civilians and humanitarian operations;

“(3) the current level of United States assistance and other assistance provided to AMIS, and a request for additional United States assistance, if necessary;

“(4) the status of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) plans and assistance to support AMIS; and

“(5) the performance of AMIS in carrying out its mission in the Darfur region.”.

(b) REPORT ON SANCTIONS IN SUPPORT OF PEACE IN DARFUR.—Section 8 of the Sudan Peace Act (Public Law 107-245; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note), as amended by subsection (a), is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

“(d) REPORT ON SANCTIONS IN SUPPORT OF PEACE IN DARFUR.—In conjunction with reports required under subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this section, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report regarding sanctions imposed under subsections (a) through (d) of section 6 of the Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act of 2004, including—

“(1) a description of each sanction imposed under such provisions of law; and

“(2) the name of the individual or entity subject to the sanction, if applicable.”.

SEC. 11. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act (or any amendment made by this Act) or any other provision of law shall be construed to preempt any State law that prohibits investment of State funds, including State pension funds, in or relating to the Republic of the 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.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in very strong support of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, and I want to commend the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE) of the International Relations Committee for drafting a bill that has the best chance of becoming law and dealing with the genocidal situation in Sudan. Despite sometimes difficult and complex efforts needed to move this legislation, Mr. HYDE has remained steadfast in moving forward and that is why I have continued to support his efforts throughout this process.

Madam Speaker, no single country in Africa has been subject to greater partisan and bipartisan attention and deliberation by the United States Congress than the Republic of Sudan. Over the past 3 years, at least nine major bills and resolutions regarding Sudan have been passed by this body, including an historic declaration that genocide was occurring in the Darfur region of western Sudan in September of 2004.

For its own part, the administration of President Bush has led both humanitarian and diplomatic efforts to address the crisis in Darfur. The United States has provided more than \$617 million in assistance to help ease the suffering of those most affected by the conflict, and more than \$150 million to support the African Union mission in Darfur.

I would say parenthetically, last August Greg Simpkins, our expert on the subcommittee, and I went to Darfur. We spent several days in Khartoum and then made our way up to Mukjar and Kalma camp. Mukjar is a very remote camp, where we saw the beneficiaries of that aid, men and women and children, who have suffered so much, lost so many of their loved ones to this genocide. But it was reassuring and quite gratifying, to be blunt, to see American aid providing them with healthy and nutritious meals as well as the medicines and at least some of the security that they so desperately need.

We also knew, especially with Mukjar, that if you traveled just a kilometer outside camp, the Janjaweed and other killers were waiting to continue their genocidal deeds. It was very sobering to know the risks and the security fright that they face each and every day knowing that they cannot go past the perimeters of the refugee camps.

We also met in Khartoum with not only Salva Kiir, the Vice President, who is doing an extraordinarily good job to try to bring peace to the region, but we also met with President al-

Bashir. He and his junta continue to be largely responsible for many of the crimes committed both in Darfur and earlier in the south of Sudan.

Let me finally point out to my colleagues that at the direction of the President, President Bush, the United States Ambassador to NATO has pressed for NATO reinforcement of the African Union mission. We all know they do not have enough people to do the job. The mission was designed and configured in a way that almost doomed it to failure despite herculean efforts on their part. We are now pressing for reinforcement of those AU troops.

The U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, John Bolton, continues to seek authorization to incorporate the African Union Mission into a larger, more robust U.N. peacekeeping mission. As Mr. LANTOS knows when we traveled to New York just a week ago and met with Kofi Annan and others, that was one of the key topics we talked about: How do we get this AU mission blue helmeted so they can grow the mission, as well as boots on the ground to try to mitigate this misery.

The United States also continues to play a significant role in facilitating peace talks in Abuja, Nigeria, between the Government of Sudan and the rebels of Darfur.

Notwithstanding the multiple legislative initiatives and the best efforts of this administration and many of our friends in Europe, and despite the conclusion of a peace agreement for southern Sudan, the passage of six U.N. Security Council resolutions and the deployment of nearly 7,000 African Union peacekeepers in Darfur and the conduct of seven rounds of peace talks, the crisis in Darfur continues with catastrophic consequences. This conflict is real. It is ongoing, it is every day, and it demands our resolute attention.

Madam Speaker, as many as 400,000 people have died and more than 2 million people have been forced from their homes. Entire villages have been looted and destroyed, and countless men, women and children have been abducted, murdered, abused and raped. Weapons continue to flow into the region unabated despite the existence of an arms embargo, and attacks against civilians, humanitarian convoys, and African Union peacekeepers increase almost daily as peace talks in Nigeria flounder.

Despite 14,000 aid workers that make up some 82 NGOs, 13 U.N. agencies and the International Committee for the Red Cross, a lack of security and reliable transportation means that food aid and other humanitarian assistance is becoming increasingly more difficult to deliver. While it is clear that something must be done, it is also clear that we cannot legislate an end to the atrocities and no number of forces from

the African Union, NATO, U.N. or even the U.S. can impose a permanent peace without the commitment of the Sudanese themselves to lay down their arms.

Still, as humanitarians we cannot stand by idly as the Sudanese government officials and rebel commanders jockey for power while tragedy continues to unfold in Darfur and threatens to return to the rest of Sudan.

According to a recent International Crisis Group report, Sudan's ruling National Congress Party lacks the will to implement the North-South peace agreement and has frustrated the Darfur peace process by "facilitating increased chaos on the ground and promoting divisions within the rebels."

We are all aware of the complexity of the situation in Sudan and must respond accordingly to all of its facets and manifestations. This legislation, I believe, attempts a comprehensive effort to deal with the tragedy of that country. The committee amendment before you, which is the result of 8 months of bipartisan collaboration, contains the following measures:

One, while it does not authorize the use of United States Armed Forces in Darfur, it confers upon the President the authority to provide assistance to reinforce the deployment and operations of an expanded AU mission with the mandate, size, strength and capacity to protect civilians and humanitarian operations.

Two, it encourages the imposition of targeted sanctions against the Janjaweed commanders and coordinators.

Three, it calls for the extension of the military embargo established pursuant to U.N. Security Council Resolutions 1556 and 1591 to include the government of Sudan.

Four, it amends the Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act of 2004 to impose an asset freeze and travel ban against individual perpetrators of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in Darfur.

Next, it asserts that existing restrictions imposed against Sudan shall not be lifted until the President certifies to the Congress that the government of Sudan is acting in good faith to:

One, peacefully resolve the crisis in Darfur;

Two, disarm, demobilize and demilitarize the Janjaweed;

Three, adhere to U.N. Security Council resolutions;

Four, negotiate a peaceful resolution to the crisis in eastern Sudan;

Five, cooperate with efforts to disarm and deny safe havens to the Lord's Resistance Army; and

Six, fully implement the terms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

The legislation also amends the International Malaria Control Act to enable the United States Government to continue providing assistance to

southern Sudan and other marginalized areas and lift restrictions on imports and exports for those same areas.

It also adds a section regarding the preemption of State laws that prohibit investment of State pension funds in Sudan.

Madam Speaker, Sudan is a very sensitive and emotional issue for Members of this body. While Sudan may be providing the United States with valuable information relevant to the global war on terror, or so it says, it is still on the State Sponsors of Terrorism list. It is a country where the government has unleashed campaigns of terror and genocide against its own citizens.

It is a country where slavery still exists. Back in 1996, I chaired the first hearing ever on the continuing use of chattel slavery in Sudan, something that we thought was abolished in the 1860s.

For many, the National Congress Party-led faction of the Sudanese government represents pure evil. Although we may differ on our views on how best to confront the regime in Khartoum, the need to promote peace and accountability throughout Sudan is not a partisan issue. Members, such as the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) and the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO), have been tenacious on this. Of course the ranking member, Mr. LANTOS, and all of us have worked on both sides of the aisle to try to ensure that this body remains focused on Sudan in a meaningful and constructive way. Their leadership has been inspiring, and I want to thank them all.

That being said, the bill that lies before you today is the result of 8 months of inclusive consultations and intense negotiations, and represents a truly bipartisan compromise on the efforts to address genocide in Darfur while supporting the consolidation of peace in southern Sudan.

□ 1100

And while it represents a compromise, don't be mistaken. This is a strong bill. It is an important bill. It is an urgent bill. The people of Darfur cannot afford to wait while we continue discussions on how best to confront Khartoum. They need our help now.

I would also like to thank our esteemed ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, the chairman and ranking member, Mr. SENSENBRENNER and Mr. CONYERS, for acting so quickly to allow us to get this measure to the floor without further delay.

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

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I am very pleased to yield 1 minute to the distinguished Democratic leader who is in the forefront of every single fight globally on behalf of human

rights and who has just returned a few weeks ago from a visit to Darfur, Congresswoman NANCY PELOSI.

Ms. PELOSI. Thank you very much, Mr. LANTOS, our distinguished ranking member on the International Relations Committee, also a cochair of the Human Rights Caucus. Thank you for your great leadership on fighting for human rights throughout the world. You have a long history of that. You have personal experience in terms of being the only Member of Congress who escaped the Holocaust, and you have brought that conviction, your ideas, your courage to this fight once again in helping the people of Darfur.

And I want to commend Mr. CHRIS SMITH. He and FRANK WOLF have been such leaders on this issue for so very many years, and all of us who are concerned about Sudan, in particular now, Darfur are deeply in your debt.

I join the gentleman in commending HENRY HYDE, as well as Mr. LANTOS and DONALD PAYNE, our colleague, who have brought this issue to the forefront in the Congress of the United States. I thank you for authorizing this legislation, for your steadfast leadership in calling attention to the crisis in Darfur.

Mr. Speaker, I bring to the floor a picture of the children, a picture of the children of Darfur. All of us on our trip that Mr. LANTOS mentioned, who visited Darfur, 11 members of a bipartisan delegation, all of us wanted to take these children home with us, but that wasn't possible. There were so many of them. And it wouldn't be right anyway, because they wanted to go home. They wanted to go home to their homes which no longer existed.

When we were there, we visited with them. And after a day in the refugee camp, our bipartisan delegation traveled to Khartoum to meet with Vice President Taha. He asked us, he said, "The Sudanese people want to know, why are you so interested in Sudanese domestic affairs? I know the American people are free-thinking people, but maybe your free-thinking does not create a clear understanding of the facts in my country."

Vice President Taha was denying what we had seen with our very own eyes that day, refugee children struggling in the heat without shade, without adequate clothing and sleeping in make-shift tents that were made, some of them, from USAID food bags stitched together.

The Darfuris are forced to walk miles outside the camps for firewood and water, with the constant fear that they may be attacked.

As Vice President Taha was denying all of this, we could not help recalling the stories of villages torched, women raped, children kidnapped and men tortured and killed. But even in the horror of all of that, we saw hope in the bright and playful eyes of the toddlers.

That hope, however, was diminished in the eyes of the older children. They had really seen too much. They had seen too much.

The camps we visited were homes to over 100,000 people. That was just what we saw when we were there. There are many more. That is just a fraction of the staggering toll of the violence in Darfur. But you can see these camps, and you can see that some of them are made out of USAID food bags.

According to the United Nations, 3 million people are in need of assistance. Two million Darfuris have been displaced, pushed out of their homes and their villages, and nearly 200,000 people have been killed thus far, and that is a conservative estimate.

Furthermore, the full human toll is yet to be exacted. Concentrated in camps with deplorable conditions, when the rainy season comes, Darfuris are now vulnerable to further death from disease. Sickesses like cholera and dysentery could take tens of thousands more lives.

We have seen variations on this "problem from hell," most recently in Rwanda. And at that time, that short time ago, we promised never again. We have heard never again over and over again.

The humanitarian disaster in Darfur challenges the conscience of the world. It is the systemic destruction of a people. It is genocide.

While we were in the Sudan, back home President Bush reaffirmed that this is, indeed, genocide. When some of us, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. JOE WILSON and Mr. CLYBURN and I met with the President at the White House to thank him for his leadership and report on our trip, we also asked him to appoint a special envoy, special U.S. envoy for the Sudan. This envoy would signal that bringing peace and stability to the Sudan is a priority of the United States, and it is a part of this legislation that is on the floor today. This envoy, U.S. special envoy, is necessary because it will help stop the violence, bring the parties to the negotiating table, and get humanitarian relief to the people who need it.

Essential to stopping the violence is stopping the Janjaweed. I heard Congressman SMITH talking about the Janjaweed in his remarks, and after persistent questioning in our meeting with Vice President Taha, Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, in a very diplomatic but persistent way, questioned him about the Sudanese government's support of the Janjaweed, which he first denied but later admitted that they had supported the Janjaweed in the past. This was the first admission that we had seen.

Before we went into Darfur, the U.S. military briefed us that the Janjaweed is an extension of the Sudanese military, and they are engaged in state sponsored violence. This must end.

The African Union is to be commended for its efforts to protect Darfur. We saw the AU's camps there where people were getting at least something to eat and perhaps some medical attention for the first time. But so much more needs to be done.

So that is why this legislation on the floor today is so important, because I don't even know if these children are even alive 1 month after we came home, these beautiful children.

Many people in our country have been actively involved in the effort to get more support and humanitarian assistance on the ground. The United Nations dollars for Darfur were running out in March.

Humanitarian workers in Sudan are harassed, their convoys diverted and attacked, and some of these workers have been kidnapped. Humanitarian workers bring no political agenda or no destabilizing intentions to the Sudan. They carry with them hope and sometimes health. They must be protected. Their supplies must not be diverted, and their volunteers must not be detained.

So that is why I am very pleased that we were able to pass, in the supplemental, the President's request for \$439 million, and that Mr. CAPUANO's initiative to add \$50 million for assistance was accepted by the House. We hope it will be considered in the Senate.

So this legislation, as was spelled out by Mr. LANTOS and Mr. SMITH, so I won't go into it again, contains very, very important initiatives to help make matters better. Stop the violence, bring the parties to the table, get the humanitarian assistance to the people.

This brings us back to Vice President Taha's question, why is the United States so interested in Sudan? The answer is that genocide is not the domestic affair of any nation. It concerns the world. And as our colleague, JOE WILSON, said to him, Americans care about people. Our care is reflected in the working done for the people of Darfur here in this Congress, in State legislatures, in corporate board rooms, on college campuses, even on high school campuses and yes, indeed, even in the White House.

This care was spurred by our religious communities which have taken the lead in our efforts. I salute many of the religious leaders who have taken the lead on this. And on April 30, many people will converge, thousands will converge on Washington, and there will be events around the country put together by the Save Darfur Coalition.

Each day that the genocide continues, and each day that we wait, the hope we saw in the eyes of the youngest children can disintegrate into disease, despair and death.

Again, on April 30, Americans of conscience will come to Washington to echo the call, never again. These citi-

zens will demonstrate on behalf of the children of Darfur and demonstrate that, not only is America great, but America is good. And this legislation on the floor today is a reflection of that goodness. I support it, and salute the bipartisan cooperation that wrote it and brought it to floor.

Again, I thank Mr. LANTOS for his exceptional leadership on human rights throughout the world and in the Sudan, and Mr. SMITH, Mr. PAYNE and Mr. FRANK WOLF for their exceptional leadership as well.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to my good friend and colleague from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT).

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act. I commend Chairman HYDE and Chairman SMITH for their work in moving this important legislation forward.

Defending the basic human rights of the world's most vulnerable populations should be a priority for all of us. Sudan, the largest country in Africa, has been ravaged by civil war intermittently for four decades. An estimated 2 million people have died due to war-related causes and famine, and millions more have been displaced from their homes. This ongoing crisis in the Darfur region in Western Sudan has led to a major humanitarian disaster.

Estimates are that up to 300,000 people have been killed in the Darfur region over the past 24 months alone. In 2004, the House, the Senate and the White House declared the atrocities taking place in Darfur as genocide.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important legislation to impose sanctions against individuals responsible for genocide, support humanitarian operations and promote peace efforts in the region. This is not only an issue of religion or politics. This is a matter of mercy and humanity.

I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 3127.

I want to thank Chairman SMITH, again, for this great bipartisan legislation.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I first would like to thank my colleagues, Chairman HENRY HYDE and Chairman CHRIS SMITH and the ranking member, my good friend from New Jersey, DONALD PAYNE, for keeping this House focused on the grave atrocities unfolding every single day in Darfur.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Congress determined some 2 years ago that the atrocities in Darfur are genocide. We don't use that term lightly. I certainly don't. But it was my privilege to lead the debate on the Democratic side designating what is unfolding in Darfur a genocide. President Bush later addressed the U.N. General Assembly and reaffirmed that our government also designates what is happening in Darfur a genocide.

The United Nations Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs yesterday reported that the government of Sudan is preventing him from visiting Darfur as an eyewitness to the most recent wave of war crimes taking place there. In the past few months, marauding Arab militia, backed by Khartoum, have killed an estimated 10,000 children and women and men.

□ 1115

These Arab militias attacked 60 villages, sending thousands of people fleeing into the desert. As we speak, Mr. Speaker, Khartoum's Arab surrogates continue to disrupt U.N. humanitarian services, kill and displace civilians, and destabilize the entire security situation in Darfur.

While the government of Sudan grudgingly acceded to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, so-called, it continues to block every effort to protect civilians, stop the genocide, and bring peace to Darfur.

The numbers of individuals killed, raped, tortured, and displaced is staggering. Genocide has destroyed well over 60 percent of the villages in Darfur. It has displaced over 2 million human beings and killed an estimated 400,000 and driven additional hundreds of thousands into refugee camps in neighboring Chad.

Meanwhile, the escalating violence on the Chad-Sudan border between Chadian rebels and the Chadian military is threatening thousands in refugee camps and making humanitarian assistance almost impossible. Refugee men and boys are forced into recruitment into the rebel militia. Rather than getting better, the situation for Darfur refugees is becoming all the more precarious with every passing day.

The President has proposed to our allies that the United Nations have a concrete plan to stop the violence in Darfur, deploy NATO staff and resources to the region immediately to aid the embattled African Union peacekeepers, and within 6 months establish a formal United Nations peacekeeping mission in Darfur. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this plan.

And yesterday I had the occasion to talk to the distinguished Foreign Minister of Germany, and I am pleased to state that Germany and the United States will stand together as members of NATO in Darfur.

In a cynical move, the government of Sudan is putting up every possible roadblock to prevent this from happening. The regime even threatened to pull out of the African Union if it endorsed a U.N. handover.

The government of Sudan opposes a U.N. peacekeeping force for one simple reason: it wants to complete the genocide. Working with the African Union, the United Nations, and our NATO allies, we have a moral obligation to foil

this plan by actively bolstering African Union forces already there before a U.N. force can finally be deployed.

The African Union has an urgent need for underground NATO advisers and mentors in the areas of command and control, use of intelligence, enhanced communications, and for NATO to continue its current assistance such as strategic airlift for troop protection and training at African Union headquarters.

As the most powerful countries in the world, all of the governments of NATO have a responsibility to contribute in whatever way we can to stopping this genocide. It is not a matter of means, Mr. Speaker. It is a matter of political will.

To this end my distinguished colleague Congressman JOE PITTS and I have introduced House Resolution 723 that calls on the African Union, the United Nations, and NATO to work closely together to strengthen the African Union's capacity to deter the ongoing violence until the U.N. peacekeepers are fully deployed.

Recently, the other body passed a similar resolution sponsored by my friends and colleagues JOE BIDEN and SAM BROWNBACK. This effort to bridge between the current African Union mission and the fully implemented U.N. peacekeeping operation will save tens of thousands of lives and allow uninterrupted humanitarian access to the vast numbers today in camps in Chad and in Darfur. I urge all of my colleagues to cosponsor H. Res. 723, the Lantos-Pitts resolution.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3127, under consideration today, demands accountability on the part of the government of Sudan and those most responsible for genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity in Darfur. Our bill imposes sanctions against the perpetrators who either directly or indirectly are causing such large-scale human suffering and devastation.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this important bipartisan bill.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and respect for his work on this subject that I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), who has been our conscience on the issue of the Darfur genocide.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in absolute strong support of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act. I thank Mr. LANTOS, our ranking member of the International Relations Committee, for his continued leadership on issues of importance to the committee, a person who can speak of genocide, being the only Member in Congress who is a Holocaust survivor. So this is very personal, as it is with all of us.

I would like to thank Chairman HYDE for the work that he and his staff did for being open to negotiations with me and my staff and other Members as

well as those of other members of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations, chaired by Representative SMITH, my friend from New Jersey, who has done an outstanding job chairing the subcommittee.

I would also like to thank Congressman WOLF for his continued work, who for many, many years has been involved in Sudan; and Congressman TANCREDO, who went to Southern Sudan on his first CODEL a number of years ago with Senator BROWNBACK and myself; and to MELVIN WATT of the Congressional Black Caucus and BARBARA LEE and others who have stood shoulder to shoulder opposing this horrendous genocide.

It was nearly 2 years ago on June 24 in 2004 where I stood with the Congressional Black Caucus, Leader PELOSI, and TOM TANCREDO and introduced H. Con. Res. 467, declaring that genocide was occurring in Darfur, Sudan and that the government of Sudan was responsible. This is the government which harbored Osama bin Laden for 5 years in his country and aided and abetted him and assisted him.

Tragically and to our own shame, the genocide continues today, almost 2 years later, unabated. Many people were surprised when the Congress approved the genocide resolution. And then the next night Senator FRIST, with unanimous consent in the Senate, had the genocide resolution passed in the Senate and the President indicated at the United Nations that genocide was going on after Colin Powell declared it for the State Department.

Mr. Speaker, I have walked through the camps of the Darfur people who were violently forced by government troops and the Janjaweed mercenaries to run for their lives. I have seen the faces in the pictures that Leader PELOSI showed and to hear the horror stories.

Try to imagine what it is like to run away from everything you have known in an instance at gunpoint, to look back at your home, at your village, to see them engulfed in flames. Imagine the cries of scores of men and women, young and old, being brutally killed, terrorized, raped, beaten.

What continues to go on in Darfur today is the ultimate form of terrorism. An estimated 400,000 have already died from murder, starvation, diarrhea, and preventable diseases. Nearly 3 million were forced from their homes into other parts of the region or into Chad. Now the security nightmare has spilled over because the Janjaweed has gone into Chad. And this is the same government that for 20 years had a North-South war where 4 million people were displaced and 2 million people died. So this is a government responsible for 6 million displaced people, 2½ million people dead. This government does not deserve to even be called a government.

Truthfully, it is difficult to imagine. We are half a world away, safe. That is why we bear even a greater responsibility.

What can we do? We must call on President Bush to immediately push the National Congress Party to disarm the Janjaweed, to give the command to the government troops to stop killing innocent people, stop raping, to send those responsible for atrocities in Darfur to appropriate international authorities as called for in Security Council Resolution 1593, and to comply with Security Council Resolutions 1564, 1591, and 1556.

Whether they are government officials such as Security and Intelligence Chief Salah Gosh or Vice President Taha, who leads the Janjaweed, as alleged, we must make sure that this ends.

I would like to just conclude by saying even in my district on Sunday, April 9, the End the Genocide-Save Darfur will be having a rally with the American Jewish Congress, the American Jewish World Service, the United Jewish Communities of MetroWest, Help Darfur Now. So everyone is coming together.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to my good friend and distinguished colleague from California, an indefatigable fighter for human rights, Ms. BARBARA LEE.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, first, let me thank our ranking member for yielding, and also for your leadership and for making sure that wherever genocide is occurring, you take action to stop it, Mr. LANTOS. Thank you so much.

I want to thank also Chairman HYDE and Chairman SMITH for their leadership and for making sure that as we move forward in addressing this atrocity that we work together in a bipartisan fashion. It is so important that the world see Democrats, Republicans, Independents, all of us coming together on this issue.

And to Mr. PAYNE, let me just thank you again for your leadership, for being oftentimes the lone voice in the wilderness and for staying there and plugging along and making sure that this House and the other body puts this as a priority because you knew early on what was taking place when many did not. So thank you for your leadership.

And let me also thank Mr. ROYCE and all of those who have been working and in the forefront of this effort because all of us understand now that we can no longer stand by as millions of innocent people are being displaced and hundreds of thousands are being murdered.

I visited Chad and Sudan last year with Chairman ROYCE and the Academy Award nominee Don Cheadle, and let me tell you we visited those refugee camps on the Chadian-Sudanese border.

□ 1130

Children drew pictures of airplanes flying with bombs dropping. Then they had the helicopters going underneath the airplanes. Then the militia, the Janjaweed on the horses, coming in burning and raping women and kidnapping people. These pictures were vivid that the children painted. It convinced me that the Khartoum government was clearly responsible for this slaughter.

We visited also just recently with our great minority leader, NANCY PELOSI, El Fasher and the refugee camps around the AU headquarters. Quite frankly, it has gotten worse. I want to thank Congresswoman PELOSI for her leadership, because we were able once again, and you heard her earlier, to visit the refugee camps and talk to people and see and learn what we must do in order to stop this slaughter.

This is an important bill. It addresses not only the immediate needs of the Darfurian people, but also the long-term goals of a political settlement. First of all, it also asks the Secretary of State to declare the Janjaweed a terrorist organization, because that is what it is, and we need to be very clear on that. The AU is currently doing a remarkable job, and this legislation helps us to help the AU in a better way in terms of providing for more support. They need more troops.

This legislation also blocks assets and restricts travel of any individual the President determines is responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity in the Darfur region.

It also supports the International Criminal Court's efforts to prosecute those responsible for acts of genocide in Darfur.

Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that my provision for capital market sanctions, which our subcommittee approved unanimously, did not stay in the bill as it moved forward, but my provision to support state-sponsored divestment campaigns throughout our Nation is in there.

I want to thank our Chairs for making sure that that is there, because efforts to divest from companies that support the Khartoum regime should be applauded and the growing divestment movement must be supported. The University of California is getting ready to divest, Harvard University has divested, Stanford has divested, as well as the States of Illinois, New Jersey and Oregon. These provisions with regard to divestment are very important.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes sure that we step up to the plate now and put some teeth into our declaration of genocide. We cannot have another Rwanda, Mr. Speaker. One million people died, and all we could do there was go there later and apologize. Sometimes you see some of us wearing "Not on Our Watch, Save Darfur," because we do not intend to have on our watch

another genocide of that magnitude. 200,000 people is too many already. One person is too many.

So this bill will help us address the growing humanitarian crisis, and also the security crisis. In the long run, of course, we know that we must have a political solution and a peace accord.

I want to thank all of you, again, for making sure this remained a bipartisan effort.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to my good friend and distinguished colleague from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN).

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Mr. LANTOS on his outstanding leadership on this issue, as well as Chairman HYDE and Chairman SMITH on this all-important issue. I commend their leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006. I also want to express my deep concern as well as the concern of an overwhelming number of my constituents over the situation in Sudan.

The ongoing violence and humanitarian disaster in Sudan has led to as many as 400,000 villagers killed by militias and left more than 2 million Sudanese in refugee camps. This dire situation has also strained the resources of countries bordering Sudan.

In the past, I have supported measures that call on the President to improve the security in Darfur and increase funding for peacekeeping forces and humanitarian assistance. Today, I am proud to be a cosponsor of H.R. 3127, which directs President Bush to impose sanctions on the government of Sudan as well as freeze the assets of anyone responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity in Sudan. This measure also calls on NATO to send a civilian protection force to assist the African Union mission in Sudan, which has been expanded.

Mr. Speaker, the plight of the people in Darfur resonates with all of us, and we should all be ashamed that the atrocities that have taken place and that are taking place right now are happening in our time. Where is the world's outrage? Why have we not learned from the mistakes of the past, the Holocaust, Armenia, Cambodia, Rwanda?

Mr. Speaker, now is the time to act. It is our duty to end this humanitarian suffering, and I will remain steadfast in my commitment to stopping this conflict and promoting peace in Sudan.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The time of the gentleman from California has expired.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that an additional 20 minutes of debate time be made available, equally divided between the two sides.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to my good friend from Massachusetts, our distinguished colleague, MICHAEL CAPUANO.

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, first I would like to add my voice to congratulate the leadership of the International Relations Committee and to this House for bringing this bill to the floor. I will be honest, I had some doubts that this bill would ever get to the floor, and the fact that it is here I think is something that deserves recognition.

I think everybody here and everybody who is listening who cares about this issue already knows what is going on in the Sudan.

I just wanted to rise today to express my opinion that this bill coming to this floor at this time is representative of what America can be in the world. It is representative of what America is. It is the best of America. I am not so sure that this bill or anything we can do here will actually stop the genocide in Sudan, but we need to do what we can do, and that is what this bill does.

This bill represents the hopes and dreams of the world, for all the people who care, honestly care, about human rights, basic human rights. I am not talking about the kinds of things we talk about here in America which are the extra-human rights we would all like to see. These are basic: life and death; enslavement and freedom; torture and no torture.

This bill addresses those issues to the best of our ability, and I think just for a moment, every American who cares about this issue should take a second and congratulate themselves and to feel good about their country and their representatives here in the House who have taken action today that we don't need to take. I don't think any of us will get a single vote at home because of this action. But it is the morally correct thing to do if America wants to continue to be the beacon of hope for the entire world.

Mr. Speaker, I repeat what I said before. I congratulate the leadership of this House, and thank them for bringing this bill to the floor.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to my fellow Californian and good friend, who is a fighter for human rights in Africa and everywhere, Ms. MAXINE WATERS.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California. I would like to commend the bipartisan effort of the International Relations Committee, and thank you for the work that you have done on this most important issue.

I was just part of a bipartisan delegation led by minority leader NANCY PELOSI to the Sudan. Genocide is taking place as we stand here today. We

met with Vice President Taha. He was unapologetic, he was arrogant and he was uncompromising on their position in Darfur. They don't like the use of the word "genocide," but he admitted that they had funded the Janjaweed because they retaliated against the rebels of the south who were resisting the Sudanese government.

We are on the right track. This Congress has been good in helping to identify that, number one, genocide is indeed taking place. Over 200,000 people have died.

We watched what happened in Rwanda. We have noted over and over again the atrocities of the Holocaust. Yet we can't seem to get the U.N. and others to move fast enough to stop this genocide that is taking place in Darfur.

I support this resolution today, this Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006 today, because this will impose sanctions on the government of Sudan and it will block the assets of and restrict travel for individuals who are responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes or crimes against humanity in the Darfur region of Sudan. It is long past due. We should be tough about it. The sanctions movement is growing. We need to squeeze them. We need to make sure that we have the kinds of actions that will be felt.

I was up in the camps. As far as the eyes can see, millions of displaced persons who have been driven from their homes, driven from their camps, living literally on the ground with little tarps just covering them. It is unconscionable that this should continue.

Again, I thank the International Relations Committee.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 4 minutes to our distinguished colleague and my good friend from Texas, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let me again applaud the International Relations Committee, Chairman HYDE and the ranking member for never stepping away from a very difficult challenge on the international arena.

Mr. SMITH, the chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa, let me again acknowledge your ongoing stand against the brutalization of peoples who are disenfranchised around this world and taking the responsibility that this moral Congress has, the one entity that is looked upon around the world for that extended helping hand.

I, too, traveled to Chad and to Sudan and looked at this whole complex situation. On the one hand, the Sudanese government in a certain sense having a mea culpa, "not me, not I." The African Union being somewhat helpless to the extent that the charge they are given is only to watch and to see. And then in Chad, a country that is now being in essence not destroyed, but certainly charged and challenged with re-

sponsibilities that they cannot handle, thousands upon thousands of displaced persons, many of them women and children.

I visited in the heat of the spring and saw no water for the children to go to school, women being raped as they were leaving the camps to find survival, the Chad economy not being able to survive because of this enormous influx of new human beings. Yet, the Sudanese government continues, continues, to deny.

Might I say that in the course of this work, Mr. LANTOS, you know that I have worked very hard to be, as many Members of Congress, a bridge builder between nations in the Mideast. But it is important for our friends, our Arab friends and our friends in China, to understand that they are participants, that they are doing all that is good; if they become implementers or affirmers of the genocide, that this excellent legislation that has the handprint of the outstanding gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. PAYNE, who consistently has been on the battlefield, along with, of course, the excellent leadership of Leader PELOSI, who passionately went to the Sudan just a couple of months ago with members of the Congressional Black Caucus and others, who symbolize the concern of this Congress, that if they don't understand our allies, China being an emerging ally, certainly the work we are trying to do in the Mideast, that they are affirming this disaster.

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Then they are not reading the tea leaves. So I come to this floor acknowledging the excellence of H.R. 3127, asking for the other body to immediately move forward. This is not a can-do piece of legislation. This is an emergency piece of legislation. And the President, who should have listened to Secretary Powell over a year ago, who declared after we pressed as Members of Congress, members of the congressional black caucus in particular, that genocide was going on, that it was crucial that the genocide that is going on, that Americans, Americans in every corner of this particular nation would be empathetic and sympathetic to say stop this massive killing. And when I say that, it is like horses going into your suburban neighborhoods, men and women or men on horses and attacking your homes and sending you out of your homes and burning your homes. That is what is going on in Sudan.

So let me join in the sanctions of this particular legislation, but let me say to the gentleman on this floor, I do think it is time to re-energize the movement that expressed to the Sudanese government by way of the embassy, to be very honest with you, that people be at the embassy to again express our disappointment with their lack of sensitivity. And then I must

say that what I intend to do is to begin a movement of divestiture. I want to see the investment houses of America divest of any investment in the Sudan, and we will begin this as others have done in their States, and Texas needs to hear my call. Get your money out of Sudan. They are not listening. And the only way that they can be heard or we can be heard is the same way that apartheid was destroyed in South Africa, was to isolate them and to determine that they cannot any longer murder and pillage without impunity in this particular country.

I thank the distinguished gentleman, but I hope that we will be able to wage an effort, a bipartisan effort of divestiture, which ultimately brought South Africa to its recognition, that of separation of black and white and the brutality that occurred had to stop, and look at South Africa today. Sudan can be the kind of nation we all can be proud of.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their powerful and impassioned statements. This is a legislation of conscience. I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, let me just say, in closing, how grateful I am to Members on both sides of the aisle for working so steadfastly on this legislation. There were some glitches, there were some areas where there was broad agreement as well as disagreement. We worked out those differences, and I want to thank the Members, but also the staff. Joan Condon has done an incredibly good job in walking us through this legislation and writing many parts of it. Greg Simpkins, our Africa specialist on the subcommittee, who also worked on this legislation, as I said earlier, accompanied me to Darfur last August. We saw firsthand the devastating impact of this horrific genocide on men, women, and children in that beleaguered land. Pearl-Alice Marsh is always a great friend of the Africa Subcommittee, who provides very good insights. I want to thank her, as well as Noelle Lusane, DON PAYNE's lead staffer who works very well with us, and Ted Dagne. Together we were able to work through these differences.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, legislation aimed at stopping the ongoing genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan.

As a longtime cosponsor of this critical legislation, I'm pleased that this bill has been brought before us today for a vote. With as many as 400,000 killed by the orchestrated violence in Darfur, it's imperative that the U.S. act quickly and decisively to put an end to the crisis.

H.R. 3127 goes after the individuals both inside and outside the Sudanese government who are responsible for the ongoing bloodshed by directing the President to seize the assets of and refuse future visas to any individual (or their family members) responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in Sudan. It also forbids any U.S. port from accepting any goods or cargo from Sudanese ships should the Sudanese government continue to fail to take steps to resolve the crisis. Furthermore, in order to give military protection for victims on the ground, H.R. 3127 authorizes the President to provide assistance for an expanded peacekeeping force in Sudan; the African Union Mission in Sudan, AMIS, and directs the President to seek NATO reinforcement of AMIS, upon the request of the African Union.

Last month I voted for and the House passed the Capuano Amendment to the FY2006 Supplemental Appropriations Bill for Iraq and Other International Activities, which added \$50 million in funding to expand the African Union's peacekeeping operations in Darfur. This critical funding will help the African Union forces provide humanitarian relief and protection until further assistance arrives from the U.S. and the international community.

For the past three years I have voted for and cosponsored legislation condemning the atrocities in Darfur and appropriately labeling them "genocide." Both Houses of Congress have concurred with this assessment, but little has been effective in stopping the killings and displacement. We need to do more, and we need to come up with new methods to target those perpetuating the violence. The provisions within the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act will give us a fresh set of tools to apply to the situation and deliver assistance to those who need it. I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 3127.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, for three years the Sudanese government and its armed militia have been engaged in a violent conflict against two major rebel groups in Sudan. This struggle has evolved into an ongoing campaign of government-backed violence and ethnic cleansing, but the international community has failed to take sufficient action to put an end to these atrocities. Congress and the Bush Administration have recognized the slaughter in Darfur as genocide, but it is time to also hold the government in Khartoum accountable for the horrendous actions against civilians and provide international assistance to the victims in Darfur.

To date, more than two million people in Darfur have been driven from their homes and hundreds of thousands have been brutally murdered. Many who have been fortunate enough to escape the violence in Darfur have sought sanctuary in the neighboring country of Chad, but now acts of violence and genocide are following them over the border. The New York Times reported on February 28 that Chadians are now becoming the target of cross-border attacks by Sudanese militia. These assaults are sending civilians from Chad over the border to Sudan, directly into the heart of the violence and bloodshed.

The African Union Mission in Sudan, AMIS, is charged with monitoring an ineffective ceasefire that has been consistently ignored

by both sides of the conflict. But the African Union does not have the resources, training or mandate to provide real protection for the people of Darfur. The African Union needs support from the international community, and H.R. 3127 is the first step in this process. This legislation directs the President to instruct the U.S. representative to NATO to advocate for NATO reinforcement of AMIS and to urge the Security Council to adopt a resolution supporting the expansion of AMIS.

Today I offer my support for the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, and I hope that Congress, the Bush Administration and the International Community can work together to put an end to crisis in Darfur.

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, and urge my colleagues to join me in voting yes on this important piece of legislation. I commend Chairman HYDE and my fellow New Jerseyans, African Subcommittee Chairman CHRIS SMITH and Ranking Member DONALD PAYNE for bringing this bill to the floor and helping keep our focus on the terrible crisis in Darfur and humanitarian needs in Sudan.

Three years ago, the people of Sudan began a bloody civil war, with two rebel groups in the South rising up against the government in Khartoum. The response from the Sudanese government was swift and brutal, and its aerial bombardment and support of the criminal militia known as the Janjaweed continues today throughout the country. But what has been done in the Southern region of Darfur is beyond anything we have seen in many years.

Mr. Speaker, it was not lightly that Congress declared the situation in Darfur a genocide on July 22, 2004. The government and its Janjaweed allies have killed hundreds of thousands of its non-Arab citizens in the region, and this genocide continues unabated today. More than two million civilians have been displaced from their homes, over 100,000 fleeing to neighboring Chad, and these refugees live in the most difficult situations, still surrounded by Janjaweed abusers and fearful for their safety. Rape has been widespread, and as the Janjaweed move across the region they leave a path of destruction that makes living nearly impossible for the few survivors left behind.

The military of the African Union, now 7,000 strong in Sudan, is doing valiant work but has never received adequate support. The recent discussions with NATO and the United Nations to bring additional forces and military material to the peacekeeping and stabilization mission are promising, but are not enough. The bill under consideration today would authorize much needed assistance to the African Union Mission in Sudan, and direct the President to support the expansion of this force to strengthen their work to bring peace to the region.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill, which lends significant support to ongoing efforts to end the crisis in Darfur. The bill supports the use of sanctions on the government of Sudan to pressure it to end its support for the Janjaweed and return to the negotiating table. Only through strong U.S. involvement will there be an end to the violence in Darfur, and this bill provides the backing the administration needs to take further action.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to note that the American people are in firm support of the U.S. taking action on Darfur, and are strongly moved by this tragedy, which some have likened to the Holocaust. In my own district, a wide range of faith communities have joined together in the South Jersey Interfaith Coalition to Save Darfur. I am proud to be an honorary co-chair of this group which brings together people from southern New Jersey to take action on this issue. I am also proud of the students of Voorhees Middle School, who, with the help of their teacher Joyce Laurella, organized "Project: Save Darfur," which has raised awareness of the crisis as well as money for UNICEF activities in Sudan. Individual action can make a difference, and the U.S. government should join its citizens in mobilizing on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, time is of the essence in this matter, which grows more dire every day. We cannot stand idly by, as we did in the face of the genocide in Rwanda and in the early stages of the Nazi holocaust, and then report sadly from the gravesites of those who died. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote yes on the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, and support these steps to end the genocide.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I join today with many of my colleagues in strongly supporting H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006. As a co-sponsor of this measure since July 2005, I am extremely pleased this measure is finally being considered by the full House.

I traveled to Sudan in 1989. I did not know much about the Horn of Africa at the time. But I knew this: 280,000 people starved to death the year before and it was not because there was not enough food. There was a tremendous outpouring of support from people all over the world, and I am proud to say that it came primarily from the United States of America. But that food did not get through to the innocent civilian populations because of this civil war.

I went to Sudan with the late Mickey Leland and the late Bill Emerson and my colleague GARY ACKERMAN. I watched in awe as Mickey Leland negotiated with tyrant Sadiq al-Mahdi and with the leader of the SPLA John Garang, and even that unsavory character next door President Mengistu of Ethiopia to create "corridors for peace." He was successful that year. And in the following year, deaths due to starvation dropped dramatically.

But in the time since then, we have focused our attention elsewhere. We have looked away from this tragedy, and the situation today continues to deteriorate.

Over 2 million people have already died over the past two decades due to war-related causes and famine in Sudan and millions more are internally displaced—more than any other nation on the face of the Earth. And we continue to look the other way.

As we approach the 91st anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, we must also recognize that what has been happening in the Darfur region of Sudan is also genocide. On July 22, 2004, the House of Representatives declared that the atrocities occurring in the Darfur region of Sudan are genocide. This bill, H.R. 3127, also includes this declaration.

We need to get our priorities straight. Let's stop this war and end this human suffering.

We can start by passing and implementing the provisions of this important measure, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am offering my support for H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act. This bill would be an important step in ending the crisis that continues to plague the Darfur region of Sudan.

Since civil unrest erupted in Sudan in February 2003, roughly 400,000 people have died and an astounding 2.5 million have become displaced as a result of policies by the government of Sudan and attacks by government troops and government-backed militias. The human inhabitants of that beautiful land suffer daily from unimaginable torments including rape, hunger, looting, and indiscriminate killing.

The U.S. government has officially acknowledged that what is happening in Darfur is genocide. Now, it is imperative that the U.S. and the global community act in defense of those in Sudan who are suffering at the hands of their government. If we do not do all that we can to bring stability to this humanitarian crisis, then we are essentially participating in the problem.

H.R. 3127 aims to end this deplorable violence through a variety of means including increasing asset and travel sanctions, urging the expansion and a stronger mandate for the African Union Mission, AMIS, bringing perpetrators of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in Darfur to justice through the International Criminal Court, and urging the President to apply additional methods of diplomatic pressure.

As a member of the Congressional Sudan Caucus, I have had the opportunity to express my commitment to developing a solution that will put an end to this continuing genocide. Furthermore, I intend to do what I can in my capacity as a Member of Congress to demonstrate this august body's dedication to supporting human rights around the world. I am optimistic that, by working with advocates and the international community, peace will return to Sudan.

I support the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act. I also urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this important legislation.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act. This legislation is a much needed step towards ending the unprecedented tragedy taking place in Sudan, and its consideration today is long overdue.

Over the past 3 years, the world has watched as the situation in Darfur has escalated into an unprecedented humanitarian and human rights crisis. Since February 2003, civilians in the impoverished Darfur region of Sudan have been subject to indiscriminate killings, abductions, torture and rape at the hands of the Janjaweed—a lawless militia that has the alleged support of the Sudanese government. It is clear that the government of Sudan has offered their tacit approval for these attacks, and in many instances has engaged in air and ground strikes to augment the Janjaweed assaults on the people of Darfur.

The scope of this ongoing tragedy is hard to imagine. The numbers, unfortunately, speak

for themselves. An estimated 3.5 million people are starving and some 2 million have been displaced from their homes, including hundreds of thousands who have fled to Chad for refuge. When then Secretary of State Colin Powell called the crisis in Darfur "genocide" in September 2004, an estimated 50,000 people had been killed. That number may now reach as high as 400,000 today, with 180,000 of these deaths occurring in the past 18 months alone according to the United Nations. These numbers continue to grow everyday; however we may never fully appreciate the enormous human toll these atrocities have taken on Sudan, the continent of Africa, and the world.

The atrocities taking place are nothing less than a human tragedy, a world wide cause that we cannot ignore—and yet the international community remains essentially paralyzed and unable to stop it. To date, there have been 8 rounds of peace talks, the deployment of 6,000 African Union troops, 6 U.N. Security Council resolutions and declarations of genocide by the administration and this Congress. Despite this pressure, the Sudanese government has steadfastly refused to take any constructive steps towards ending this humanitarian crisis.

As the leader of the free world and a role model for human rights and democracy, we must live up to our own example. To this end, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act takes several important steps toward increasing pressure on the government of Sudan to end the current crisis. Among its many provisions, this legislation strengthens sanctions on individuals and governments responsible for, or connected to, the atrocities in Darfur. It also provides strong support for the expansion of humanitarian and peacekeeping efforts in the region, and calls for the suspension of Sudan's membership in the United Nations. While this legislation alone will not end the atrocities in Darfur, it will send a strong message to Sudan and the world community that the U.S. is serious about bringing an end to the violence.

Many grassroots groups around the country, such as the Connecticut Coalition to Save Darfur, have been working to educate policymakers and the public on the urgent need for action in this troubled region of the world. Their efforts have ensured that the crisis in Darfur stays in the public mind and today's consideration of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act is a testament to their tireless work. I am proud to support this legislation, and strongly urge its quick approval in conference so that we can get this important bill to the President's desk without delay.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3128, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006.

Three years ago, the United Nations Security Council declared its grave concern at the widespread human rights violations in Darfur and expressed its determination to do everything possible to halt a humanitarian catastrophe. Since then, at least 300,000 people are estimated to have died in Darfur. Currently, more than 3.5 million Darfurians depend on international aid for survival and another 2 million have been driven from their homes.

In 2004, pressure from Congress and American citizens prompted the Bush administration

to become the first government to recognize the mass killing in Darfur as a genocide. Since then, the U.S. has played an important role by pressing for an international response to the crisis in Darfur at the U.N. supporting the deployment and expansion of the African Union Mission In Sudan (AMIS), and providing critical humanitarian aid. Unfortunately, the U.S. and the international community have yet to muster the will or cooperative action necessary to adequately protect civilians, end the killing, and broker lasting peace.

Last week the U.N. Security Council issued a resolution reaffirming that the situation in the Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security. In Darfur large scale attacks on villages have been replaced by rampant banditry, a campaign of sexual violence, and the practical entrapment of civilians in camps. Government backed militias have not been reined in and rebel groups are contributing to violence on the ground. Civilians continue to be attacked, women and girls raped, humanitarian workers harassed, and critical aid supplies disrupted. For people of Darfur, the situation remains one of daily violence and insecurity, desperate living conditions, and the persistent threat of hunger and disease.

Sixty years ago, in the wake of the Holocaust, the international community vowed, "Never again." Ten years ago, confronted with the death toll of the Rwandan genocide, leaders of the same nations again declared, "Never again." Today, tens of thousands of women, men, and children have been murdered and hundreds of thousands continue to suffer in Darfur. The Darfur Peace and Accountability Act reminds the administration and the international community that the genocide in Darfur demands urgent attention and action, and calls upon the President to use both economic and political leverage to elicit cooperation from the Sudanese government.

Passing the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act is a small, but important demonstration of this nation's commitment to human rights. I hope that passage of this important legislation will spur more concerted national and international efforts to bring security and stability to the people of Darfur.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support and as a co-sponsor of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006.

Since February 2003, the Sudanese government—through its proxy, the Janjaweed Arab militia—has carried out a campaign to loot and burn African villages in the Darfur region of western Sudan. Hundreds of thousands of people have been killed, and over 2 million people have been displaced. This systematic pattern of attacks against civilians includes arbitrary killings, abductions, looting, torture, and rape, and such attacks are supported by air and land strikes by Sudanese government forces. Congress declared in the summer of 2004 that genocide was occurring in Darfur, and the administration followed suit in the fall of 2004.

This bill strengthens the Sudan Peace Act of 2004 by expanding sanctions, authorizing funding for humanitarian and peacekeeping efforts, and by taking additional steps to bring international attention to this conflict.

First, this bill specifically targets individuals in the government as opposed to punishing

the coalition government as a whole. It holds Sudanese government officials and Janjaweed officers accountable for genocidal acts. The bill also targets oil revenues of the Sudanese government by denying access to U.S. ports to any ships involved in the Sudanese arms or oil industries. It is important that we force those responsible for the violence to account for their actions and that we prevent the Sudanese government from continuing to profit while thousands are being killed.

Second, the bill increases humanitarian aid to southern Sudan and other marginalized areas, which are currently under the control of the Sudanese government and thus sanctioned. With this provision, our aid will more efficiently reach those in need, even if they live under the coalition government. In this way, we can hope to protect those who have lost their homes and their livelihoods to the violence of the region.

Third, the bill reinforces the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) in order to protect civilians and carry out humanitarian operations. Currently, the African Union Mission in Sudan consists of only a few thousand troops, and AMIS will require a significant number of supplies and additional troops to effectively carry out its mission. The United Nations Security Council should also consider authorizing a separate, more robust peacekeeping force under U.N. auspices.

I was pleased that the House appropriated \$500 million last month in emergency assistance to southern Sudan and Darfur. I urge the House to adopt this legislation today, which takes important steps to stop the ongoing genocide in Darfur.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006. I wish to thank my good friends and colleagues on the House International Relations Committee, in particular Chairman HENRY HYDE and Ranking Member TOM LANTOS. I would also like to thank the honorable gentleman from New Jersey, Representative DONALD PAYNE, for his leadership on Darfur and peace in Sudan, as well as my Massachusetts colleague, and Co-Chair of the Sudan Caucus, Representative MICHAEL CAPUANO.

Mr. Speaker, the genocide in Darfur is an affront to the world, and a challenge to the moral and political leadership of the U.S., the European Union, the NATO Alliance, the African Union, and the international community and its representative body, the United Nations. To date, we have failed, individually and collectively, to rise and meet this challenge.

Every day, the carnage continues.

Every day, villages are destroyed.

Every day, women and girls are raped.

Every day, children are held in servitude.

Every day, the Sudanese government in Khartoum and its terrorist allies, the Janjaweed militias, sit fat and happy, secure in their knowledge that the world is all bark, and no bite—and they continue their pillage and their

terror and their violent acts with impunity.

This bill, Mr. Speaker, attempts to hold the Government of Sudan, its leadership and its militia allies accountable for their acts and their crimes.

It is not enough, Mr. Speaker, but it takes important steps to strengthen current sanctions, increase the pressure on Khartoum, demand greater support for the African Union peacekeeping mission (AMIS), and require greater action by the international community, including the U.S., to put an end to the slaughter.

I wish the bill would have required the establishment and enforcement of a no-fly zone over Darfur, but at least it includes a sense of Congress provision in support of the no-fly zone. But I warn you, Mr. Speaker, in the absence of controlling the skies over Darfur, government planes and helicopters will continue to support and protect the terrorist militias as they carry out genocidal acts against the defenseless population.

Mr. Speaker, everyone talks about Darfur. For the past 3 years the world has called what is happening in Darfur genocide. And yet the situation continues, the crisis worsens, the blood continues to flow, smoke still rises over the few remaining villages, refugees from the region pour into overcrowded camps, hunger and famine stalk the refugees, and the conflict spills over into neighboring countries.

We cannot continue to talk about Darfur, yet turn our eyes away.

We cannot continue to talk about Darfur, yet take no actions to stop the killing.

I fear, Mr. Speaker, the peace of the dead.

This is not an African problem, this is a crime against humanity—all humanity—our humanity.

I support H.R. 3127; it is a good step in the right direction; but it is not enough.

We in this Congress; we in this Nation; we in this world have failed to meet the test of Darfur—and we will continue to fail until the killing stops, peace is achieved, and the murderers—and all those who aid and abet them—are held accountable and brought to justice.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3127.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by thanking Chairman HYDE, Ranking Member LANTOS, Africa Subcommittee Chairman SMITH and my good friend and long time collaborator on Sudan related legislation and issues, DONALD PAYNE of New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, we all know the numbers: the genocide in Darfur has claimed 400,000 lives and displaced over 2.5 million people. More than 100 people continue to die each day; 5,000 die every month.

Led and supported by their puppet masters in Khartoum, the Janjaweed militia have raped, pillaged, killed and according to this Congress, have committed acts of genocide against Darfur's innocent inhabitants.

Mr. Speaker, despite the efforts of this Congress and the numerous governmental and non-governmental organizations who are active on the ground in Darfur, the situation continues to deteriorate: atrocity crimes are continuing and people are still dying in large numbers from malnutrition and disease.

The humanitarian situation remains catastrophic, due to layers of aid obstruction, the lack of an overall humanitarian strategic plan, and the weakened state of displaced Sudanese. Refugees and internally displaced civilians (IDPs), a disproportionate number of them women, are in terribly weakened states, subject to sexual abuse and without adequate shelter. The numbers of at-risk civilians continue to increase. And as need far outstrips the ability of agencies to deliver aid, localized famine is feared.

To be perfectly frank, I find it reprehensible, Mr. Speaker; simply reprehensible that the international community has failed to act on the promises made after the Holocaust that never again would genocide occur on this planet.

While I stand here today as a Member of Congress and applaud my colleagues for their efforts, I also stand here outraged that the United Nations and NATO have allowed despicable war criminals in Khartoum, the same criminals that once provided safe harbor to Osama Bin Laden and as of Monday, have denied a senior U.N. official from entering Darfur, to dictate the method by which the international community may respond to acts of genocide.

Despite my sadness Mr. Speaker, despite my outrage, I come to the floor today slightly uplifted over the fact that later today this body will vote on and hopefully pass H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act.

As I have stated repeatedly during the various markups of this legislation, the final version of this bill is certainly not what I had hoped for; despite the best efforts of my staff and others, there is no authorization of force language; the sanctions could have been stronger; there was no mention of a no fly zone; the list goes on.

Despite these shortcomings, Chairman HYDE's legislation provides the President with the necessary authorization authority to help alleviate the suffering of the people of Darfur;

It denies entry to U.S. ports to certain cargo ships if the Government of Sudan fails to take specified peace measures in Darfur; prohibits, with waiver authority, U.S. assistance to a country that violates U.N. Security

Council Resolutions that prohibit military sales to Sudan; and while the bill provides the President with the authority to direct our Ambassadors to NATO and the U.N. to take various action to stop the genocide in Darfur; and while those Ambassadors have acted accordingly; as I mentioned earlier, both of those organizations have been sluggish and as of now ineffective in taking proactive action to prevent further atrocities.

Mr. Speaker, no matter how stringent this piece of legislation could have been, it would not have ended the killing, the rape and the pillaging that continues to occur in Darfur.

While the President has taken some action to alleviate the suffering of innocent Darfurians, some is simply not enough when a genocide is occurring on our watch.

As I conclude, it is my hope that this piece of legislation sends a signal to Khartoum that this Congress will not stand by idly while the innocent are slaughtered; in addition, I hope the President will increase his pressure on the international community to take decisive action to end the genocide and bring those responsible to justice.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3127, The Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006. As the entire world already knows and our Government has already recognized, genocide is today occurring in the Sudanese region of Darfur. Hundreds of thousands of civilians have died and almost 1.5 million displaced by Sudanese government backed militias. It is a shame that much of the world has stood idly by while the slaughter continues and Sudan's vulnerable neighbors are left to cope with the tragedy. Additionally, the perpetrators have not been held to account.

I commend my 162 bi-partisan colleagues who have co-sponsored this important bill. It includes additional targeted economic and diplomatic sanctions against the Sudanese regime and increases support for the African Union Mission in Sudan, AMIS, by offering assistance from NATO.

As privileged citizens of the free world we must be ever vigilant toward those who commit barbaric acts in our world. Unfortunately, our country has a poor record in this respect. Therefore, we must work to ensure that the future generations will not bear this same guilt by acting decisively now. As a cosponsor of The Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, I will continue to work with my colleagues to see that the genocide in Darfur is finally halted and urge the House to pass this important legislation.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, H.R. 3127.

This important bill would block the assets and deny visas and entry to any individual (and family member) responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in Sudan. H.R. 3127 authorizes support for the African Union peacekeeping mission in Darfur. It prohibits U.S. assistance to a country in violation of U.N. Security Council

embargo on military assistance to Sudan. It also urges a Security Council resolution supporting expanding the African Union peacekeeping mission.

For too long the world community turned its back to the ongoing genocide in the Sudan. But the actions of students, religious leaders, and concerned citizens in the United States and around the globe raised awareness about the horrors occurring in Darfur. I want to thank all who shared with me their concern about Darfur in town hall meetings, letters, phone calls, and e-mails over the last three years.

Today the Congress is answering their calls for action. Passing this bill is an all important step to ending the genocide and beginning to hold those who are guilty accountable.

Yet, today there is great suffering in Darfur. The murders continue. The brutal violence still occurs. The rapes persist. People still live in fear. Since 2003, over 200,000 innocent civilians have been slaughtered. More than two million Sudanese civilians are displaced and many live in temporary refugee camps. More disturbing, over three million Sudanese are in need of humanitarian assistance.

The images are stark. The stories are horrifying and sickening. But each one is the picture or story of a single person: a fellow human. We need to remember that we are all bound together in a common existence and a member of the global community. Those who have been slaughtered and those who are suffering in Darfur are family. They are our brothers, they are our sisters. They share the same earth we do and we share a commitment to their safety and wellbeing. My faith, and the faith of many others, says that it is immoral to sit idly by.

Our commitment to end this conflict and to the people of the region must not begin and end today. We must remain focused and dedicated to ending the genocide and healing the wounds of a prolonged civil war. Justice must be served on those who perpetrated these heinous immoral crimes and we must help rebuild and restore the lives of the people who, through the grace of God, survive this hellish civil war.

We, here in Congress, have worked to end this civil war before. We went on record in September of 2004, declaring Darfur a genocide. Just recently, the House approved over \$550 million to pay for additional peacekeepers, increased humanitarian assistance and resettlement of refugees. This money is essential to maintaining the current peacekeeping mission and ease the suffering of those who are displaced.

It is long past time for the United Nations to become involved in Sudan. The UN needs to deploy a robust and sizable international mission to end the genocide and then work to bring peace to the Sudan.

After the systematic genocide of the Holocaust, we said never again. After the horrors of Rwanda and the Kosovo we committed ourselves to preventing genocide before it surfaced elsewhere. Sadly, we are close to adding Darfur to this list.

I call on the President to continue to push this issue with world leaders and push in the United Nations to end the genocide in Darfur and to internationalize the response. I pray that the suffering will soon end, but that we

will not soon forget our brothers and sisters in Africa.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the United Nations has identified the situation in Darfur, Sudan, as the worst current humanitarian and human rights statement of crisis in the world. And, the United States has labeled the killings in Darfur as genocide.

History is littered with examples of the international community recognizing the existence of genocide, while at the same time failing to put an end to the murder, rape and dislocation of innocent men, women and children.

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

The nations of the world must stop turning a blind eye to the suffering of innocents.

I am pleased that we are considering legislation to provide further assistance to the African Union Mission in Sudan, and to strengthen the arms embargo against the Janjaweed militia.

But we must not delude ourselves: the resolution before us today will not by itself solve the crisis or put an end to the suffering in Sudan.

As recognized in this legislation, the mission of the African Union peacekeepers must be expanded to allow them to intervene when acts of violence are being committed against innocent Sudanese.

How can we not have learned the lessons of Bosnia, Kosovo and Rwanda, where we watched in horror as troops in blue helmets stood by and witnessed the rape, murder and displacement of thousands?

The humanitarian crisis currently taking place in Sudan is among the most grave the world has seen in the past decade, and at its heart is the genocidal campaign being waged by the Khartoum government.

The most important, immediate step the world can take to stem the violence is to empower the forces already in place to actually protect the people of Darfur.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. And, I urge the U.S. Representatives at the United Nations to carry out their mission as directed in this bill to provide to African Union peacekeepers the authority to stop this genocide.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act passed the House today, Wednesday April 5, 2006. This Act calls for action. The specific intent and purpose of this Act must be implemented immediately by the Administration. It is too late for more words on the horrors of Darfur no matter how strong the words. As Nicholas Kristoff in his persistent, piercing Times columns has pointed out that for years, we have said "Never Again, Again." And yet, the slow genocide continues in Darfur. Babies die of hunger and thirst, women suffer a deliberate policy of rape; men are castrated and shot in the head. The starvation, the deaths, the burning of villages, the poisoning of wells, the slaughter of domestic animals on which people depend, the brutal killing of children in front of their mothers continues while the world watches. "Uncover Your Eyes" Mr. Kristoff tells us. "Uncover Your Eyes." (Nicholas D. Kristoff, June 7, 2005).

The killing in Darfur is the first Genocide of the 21st Century. There is only one approach to a genocide: It must be stopped using all necessary means; and those that perpetuate it must be held accountable. There is no excuse for failing to hold accountable those who arm, condone and assist in genocide; most especially the excuse for a failure to hold a government accountable must not be "the war on terror." Those who arm and support the Janjaweed militia as the government in Khartoum continues to do are terrorists. If you doubt it, then uncover your eyes: the Janjaweed seized nine boys from a village called Saleya, stripped them naked, tied them up, cut off their noses and ears, gouged out their eyes and shot them to death before leaving them near a public well. Nearby villagers got the message and fled. Currently rapes take place when women collect firewood. If the men collect the firewood, they are castrated and then shot in the head.

The United States has given a great deal of humanitarian aid to the refuge camps where thousands of people of Darfur live. They cannot go back to their villages. The representatives from the State Department say the starvation and malnutrition rates for these people have slowed since 2004. However, they are unable to feed themselves; if they go back to their villages and try to restore their dwellings and grow crops; they will be killed. There is nothing to indicate the genocide has been called off. The non-Arab tribes from the Darfur region of Sudan are marked for death because of their tribal membership and the fact that they are non-Arab Africans.

We know what needs to be done. We have the time to do what needs to be done. We have the means, the influence, and the power. What we need is the will and the leadership. First the United States must recognize that if the genocide is to be stopped, the United States will have to stop it. This is a most wonderful opportunity never before presented to a leader or a country. President Bush on behalf of all the compassionate citizens of this country must seize this opportunity.

Second, the State Department with the leadership of the President must recognize that neither the mandate nor the troop strength of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) is adequate to protect civilians in Darfur. Third, although the United Nations Security Council has taken steps toward establishing a United Nations peacekeeping mission for Darfur, it could take up to a year for such a mission to deploy fully and the people of Darfur cannot wait that long. Therefore, the African Union must request assistance not only from the United Nations but also from NATO. NATO is needed immediately; Pursuant to Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations a peacekeeping force for Darfur must be approved. It must be well trained and equipped and have adequate troop strength to protect the people of Darfur and stop the deaths of helpless, unarmed civilians many of whom are under the age of five.

In order to achieve this, President Bush must propose that NATO consider how to implement and enforce a declared no-fly zone in Darfur and deploy troops to Darfur to support to the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) until a United Nations peacekeeping force is

fully deployed in the region. President Bush must also approve supplemental funding to support a NATO mission in Darfur and the African Union Mission in Sudan and called upon NATO allies led by the United States to support such a mission and to call upon NATO headquarters staff to begin planning for such a mission.

President Bush has the opportunity that comes once in a presidency and perhaps once in a lifetime. He can save an entire people, their elders, their parents, their children. He can stop the rapes, the maiming of children and women, the acts of barbarism we have shut our eyes to because they are unbearable to look at. I implore President Bush on behalf of his fellow Americans, uncover your eyes and open your heart. Stop the genocide in Darfur.

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006.

Nearly 2 years ago, I joined my colleagues in Congress to declare the atrocities in Darfur "genocide." Despite this declaration, hundreds of thousands are dead, millions remain displaced and peacekeepers continue to lack needed support. It is clear that additional action is needed and I am pleased to join my colleagues today in supporting passage of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006.

The Khartoum government must be held accountable. It is my hope that with this legislation President Bush will exercise the influence of the United States at the United Nations to garner greater support from the world community to end the crisis in Darfur and bring peace to the Sudanese people.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the passage of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act. This bill reflects the United States' continued commitment to see that the violence ends and a lasting peace is achieved in Darfur.

Darfur has already been acknowledged as the worst human rights tragedy since the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Nowhere else have we recently seen such a massive attack on innocent civilians who are left to suffer in complete isolation, cut off from the rest of the world.

Nearly 400,000 people have already died in Darfur and over two million people continue to live as refugees and internally displaced persons. Thousands of women have been raped and sexually abused and children are left to die from malnutrition, dysentery and infectious diseases.

Mr. Speaker, last month's approval by the House of funding for Sudan is a solid commitment that brings us closer to resolving the crisis in Darfur and helping those in need. But it is not enough. Congress must continue and hold steadfast to the basic principles of freedom and human rights that we stand for and press on until justice is brought to the Darfurians.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reiterate my grave concern about the situation in Darfur and to express my support for H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006. International efforts to end the genocide now occurring in Darfur have been lackluster. We should be doing more to intervene on behalf of the thousands of innocent men, women and children in that region. I am hope-

ful that this legislation will give added momentum to ending that genocide. Authorizing the President to provide assistance to the African Union Mission on the ground through NATO is just one of the ways that we can fight to bring an end to the violence.

In addition to supporting H.R. 3127, there are several other measures that send a message to the Sudanese that the United States cannot accept the current state situation such as supporting H. Res. 675, a resolution expressing disapproval of the Arab League's decision to hold its 2006 summit in Khartoum, Sudan. The resolution calls on the Arab League, the government of Sudan, the Sudanese rebels, and the world community to do all they can to end acts of genocide in the Darfur Region of Sudan.

One of the most effective tools in sending a message to the Sudanese government is divestment. I, along with many colleagues, have requested that the University of California Office of the President develop a plan of divestment from Sudan.

Mr. Speaker, the Sudanese government is in complete denial of their role in supporting genocide and we must act now to send a message that the U.S. will not tolerate this situation—we must pass H.R. 3127.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3128, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006.

Three years ago, the United Nations Security Council declared "its grave concern at the widespread human rights violations" in Darfur and "expressed its determination to do everything possible to halt a humanitarian catastrophe." Since then, at least 300,000 people are estimated to have died in Darfur. Currently, more than 3.5 million Darfurians depend on international aid for survival and another 2 million have been driven from their homes.

In 2004, pressure from Congress and American citizens prompted the Bush Administration to become the first government to recognize the mass killing in Darfur as a genocide. Since then, the U.S. has played an important role by pressing for an international response to the crisis in Darfur at the UN, supporting the deployment and expansion of the African Union Mission In Sudan (AMIS), and providing critical humanitarian aid. Unfortunately, the U.S. and the international community have yet to muster the will or cooperative action necessary to adequately protect civilians, end the killing, and broker lasting peace.

Last week the UN Security Council issued a resolution reaffirming "that the situation in the Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security." In Darfur large scale attacks on villages have been replaced by rampant banditry, a campaign of sexual violence, and the practical entrapment of civilians in camps. Government backed militias have not been reined in and rebel groups are contributing to violence on the ground. Civilians continue to be attacked, women and girls raped, humanitarian workers harassed, and critical aid supplies disrupted. For people of Darfur, the situation remains one of daily violence and insecurity, desperate living conditions, and the persistent threat of hunger and disease.

Sixty years ago, in the wake of the Holocaust, the international community vowed,

"Never again." Ten years ago, confronted with the death toll of the Rwandan genocide, leaders of the same nations again declared, "Never again." Today, tens of thousands of women, men, and children have been murdered and hundreds of thousands continue to suffer in Darfur. The Darfur Peace and Accountability Act reminds the Administration and the international community that the genocide in Darfur demands urgent attention and action, and calls upon the President to use both economic and political leverage to elicit cooperation from the Sudanese government.

Passing the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act is a small, but important demonstration of this nation's commitment to human rights. I hope that passage of this important legislation will spur more concerted national and international efforts to bring security and stability to the people of Darfur.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my strong support for the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act and urge my colleagues to vote for it. This important bill takes critical steps towards ending the genocide in Darfur by authorizing the President to provide assistance to expand the African Union Mission in Sudan while also strengthening sanctions on countries that provide military assistance to Sudan.

The crisis in Darfur, Sudan began in February 2003 when two rebel groups emerged to challenge the National Islamic Front government in Darfur. Since then, over 300,000 people have died and nearly 2 million have been displaced from their homes. It is unfortunate that it took the United States until July of 2004 to recognize that these events in Darfur constituted genocide and it has taken until April of 2006 for the House of Representatives to consider this bill. We have seen far too many times the consequences of ignoring genocide or failing to get involved quickly.

The fact is that while we take a crucial step today, more remains to be accomplished to ensure a lasting peace in the Darfur region of Sudan. Yesterday, in the New York Times, Jan Egeland, the U.N. under-secretary-general for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief, stated, "Many believe the problems are over in Darfur. They are getting worse." The United States government must continue to work in conjunction with the United Nations and other allies to put pressure on the Sudanese government to allow U.N. peacekeeping forces into the country.

I have introduced legislation expressing disapproval of the Arab League's decision to hold its 2006 summit in Khartoum, Sudan. The world community needs to join us as one in condemning the tragedy in Darfur and pressuring the Sudanese government to end it.

Mr. Speaker, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act is a crucial step towards ending the violence. We need to remember, however, that we have more to do to end this humanitarian crisis. With nearly two million people displaced from their homes and hundreds of thousands dead, resolving this conflict should be a priority for Congress and the Administration. We cannot allow a tragedy of this magnitude to occur in today's world.

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, since February 2003, it is estimated that the government-sanctioned violence in

Darfur has displaced 2 million people, forced 200,000 people into exile and led to the murder of 300,000 civilians. In July 2004, the United States Congress declared the atrocities in Darfur genocide.

Mr. Speaker, I have a deep and personal understanding of the horrors of genocide. My mother, Renee Perl, was forced to flee Austria—alone—at the age of 14 to escape the Holocaust, leaving behind her family and friends.

As my mother fled the Nazis, the world stood by as Hitler sent Jews to their deaths at Auschwitz, Dachau and Treblinka. Six million deaths later, the world pledged "Never Again".

Yet, only years after the Nazi-era, millions were sent to their deaths in places such as Cambodia, Bosnia and Rwanda, and the world once again took too long to act. And today, millions of innocent Darfuri men, women and children are being persecuted by the Sudanese government and government-backed militias. To date, however, the perpetrators of these atrocities have faced little to no punishment for their actions and the genocide continues.

The 20th century taught us how far unbridled evil can and will go when the world fails to confront it. It is time that we heed the lessons of the 20th century and stand up to these murderers. It is time that we end genocide in the 21st century.

The bill we are considering today is an important step in this direction. By imposing direct penalties on those responsible for crimes in Darfur, we are sending a strong message to the Sudanese government. But, more must be done.

The serious crimes by the Sudanese government and the government-supported militias must be met with serious consequences. We must work for tough international economic sanctions on the Sudanese government. We must continue to support efforts to bring those responsible for crimes against humanity before the International Criminal Court. And, most importantly, we must continue pressing for a strong, international military engagement with a robust mandate to protect civilians in Darfur.

All across America, millions of Americans are demanding that we take action. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and I urge the administration to do all it can to end this genocide.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act. Passage of this bill, which is long overdue, will help fulfill the U.S.'s role in ending the genocide in Sudan.

More than a year and a half ago, Congress voted unanimously to condemn the genocide in Darfur. Then-Secretary of State Colin Powell declared the atrocities in Darfur to be genocide, a statement that was hailed as significant and meaningful coming from the highest echelons of the U.S. government. Despite these clear pronouncements, however, more people die every day and the slow genocide in Darfur persists unabated.

It is beyond imagination that the collective might and concerted will of the nations of the world cannot find a way to end this daily toll of human misery. I hope and pray that Sudan will allow the proposed UN peacekeeping mis-

sion to move forward so that we can end this devastation. While we wait, however, we must find ways to make the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) stronger, and to bolster these efforts with a NATO support.

We must also send the message to those who perpetrate genocide that there will be consequences. The Darfur Peace and Accountability Act would impose harsh sanctions against those who are complicit in or responsible for acts of genocide, freezing their assets and restricting their ability to travel, and would block the Government of Sudan's access to the oil revenues used to fund the ongoing genocide.

The bill also properly recognizes that ending the genocide in Darfur is not a challenge to be solved by the United States alone. It provides clear support for efforts to establish a U.N. peacekeeping presence in Darfur and other multilateral initiatives to pressure the Sudanese government to end the genocide.

My colleagues, "Never Again" is a phrase we have all heard before. We have all said it before. It is one of the most powerful expressions of the natural human inclination to stop suffering, to end the death and destruction that stems from senseless hatred and indifference to human life.

Never Again will we let 6,000,000 Jews perish under the noses of the civilized world. Never Again will we let Rwandans be rounded up and indiscriminately killed because of their tribal affiliation. Never Again will we allow ethnic cleansing in the Balkans.

The problem with the phrase "Never Again," however, is that it is usually uttered after the violence is over, as a rallying cry against history repeating itself. We have seen, time and time again, that history does repeat itself, and it is simply not enough to say that we will prevent it next time. We must end the genocide in Darfur now.

The Darfur genocide is not a Sudanese problem or an African problem. It is a human tragedy, and it is ours to solve. If we are serious about "Never Again," let passage of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act today be just one step along this long and arduous road.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this important legislation, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act.

The people of this troubled region have experienced almost unimaginable suffering. As many as 400,000 people have already lost their lives and two million more have been forced from their homes. The House of Representatives, along with the Senate and the Administration, have long acknowledged that the crimes being committed in Darfur amount to genocide.

Last month the House voted to provide \$271 million for peacekeeping in Darfur and another \$228 million in humanitarian aid as part of the Supplemental Appropriations bill. This funding is a welcome and necessary step in the right direction. Today we take another step with the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act.

This legislation directs the President to take a number of steps to stop the genocide in Darfur. This includes providing assistance to an expanded African Union force in Darfur, advocating a NATO role in stopping the violence, pushing for an additional United Nations

Security Council Resolution regarding Darfur, and freezing the assets of those responsible for acts of genocide.

I am pleased that this legislation emphasizes a multilateral approach. The entire international community has a responsibility to work together to stop these crimes against humanity, and the bill before us makes clear that we expect the President to work with our allies to stop the killing in Darfur.

The United States and the international community must do far more to break the cycle of violence and hunger that grips Darfur. In a word, we must put real resources and diplomacy into solving the problem. This legislation advances these goals, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, our consideration today of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act is long overdue, but it is more timely and urgent than ever.

It has been nearly two years since this House recognized the atrocities in Darfur as genocide. In that time we have offered aid to refugees and support for peacekeeping activities. However, this is the first real legislative effort to enhance the U.S. response to this crisis. While I am pleased that we are acting, we should and could have done more sooner.

H.R. 3127, authorizes tough sanctions against individuals responsible for the war crimes committed in Darfur. It imposes an embargo on Sudanese cargo ships and oil tankers, and strengthens the military arms embargo against the Sudanese government.

The legislation will substantially improve our ability to provide protection for the more than 2 million vulnerable civilians displaced by the conflict. Specifically, it calls on NATO to expand and reinforce the African Union Mission in Sudan. It also advocates an initiative now underway at the Security Council to transition the African Union force into a UN sponsored peacekeeping operation.

Sadly, as a recent Security Council assessment shows, the dire situation in Darfur is only deteriorating further. Relief organizations are being denied entry, supplies are being cut off and humanitarian missions are being attacked. Civilian populations and refugee camps remain unprotected and the murderous rampages of Jangaweed militias continue unchecked. There is little progress in peace negotiations.

The transition to a UN led peacekeeping mission with greater resources and an expanded mandate is the only hope for improving the situation on the ground. Passage today of H.R. 3127 will add momentum to this effort.

An end to the conflict in Darfur cannot be achieved without strong U.S. leadership. We have a moral responsibility to intervene.

I want to give credit to the activists across the country who have been the leading voices commanding our attention to this crisis. In classrooms, campuses, synagogues, churches, and communities across America there are so many who are deeply committed to making sure that those suffering in Darfur are not forgotten. At the end of the month, thousands will rally in Washington to call greater attention to the cause.

I am especially proud that the University of California recently joined more than a dozen colleges around the country in divesting from

companies that do business in Sudan. Similar efforts are being considered by a number of state legislatures and private pension plans. Congress and the Department of Treasury should lend their support to these efforts.

Let us pledge that today is a new beginning in our fight for justice for the people of Darfur.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the passage of H.R. 3127, The Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006. As I was regretfully absent at the time of this vote, I now take the opportunity to affirm my resolute support of this act.

"The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government." These words, spoken by Thomas Jefferson, come to mind as I consider the current situation in Darfur, Sudan. In a conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands of people, displaced and left millions hungry, the United States can remain idle no longer. I stand with my colleagues in the House in support of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act and would have voted for the resolution if I had been present.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, of which I am a cosponsor.

This Act authorizes the President to offer further assistance to the African Union Mission in Sudan to protect civilians and humanitarian operations. It also provides the President the authority to impose sanctions on those individuals who have committed acts of genocide and calls on the international community to contribute more aid to end this horrific crisis.

The United States and our allies must do whatever we can to help end the atrocities that have been occurring in the Darfur region of the Sudan over the last four years. During that time over 400,000 southern Sudanese Christians have been massacred and over 1.6 million people have been permanently displaced from their homes.

To this day, the Sudanese government in the north is continuing to attempt to "ethnically cleanse" this area of its Christian population. These serious violations of international human rights and law—not to mention, plain human decency—must be stopped.

The rest of the world must put pressure on the individuals and institutions involved to put an immediate end to these crimes without regard to their economic or political interests in the area. Human life must be the guiding factor.

I applaud the efforts of my colleagues, CHRIS SMITH and DONALD PAYNE, both of whom are from my home state of New Jersey. I also thank Chairman HYDE for his tireless efforts on this legislation as well and ask that all of my colleagues support H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act.

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express pleasure with the passage of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act.

What is happening in the Darfur region of Sudan is genocide. I have visited the region several times over the past couple of years, and have had the privilege to meet women and children who have suffered and who have survived. Their courage and determination to stay alive—to survive—is an inspiration and it

humbles me. The atrocities being perpetrated against the innocent civilians of Darfur must be condemned in the strongest possible terms by this Congress, the Administration, and the international community.

H.R. 3127 attempts to address the dire situation in the Darfur region by reaffirming the sanctions already in place against Sudan, and by authorizing the President to block the assets and deny the visas of those deemed to be responsible for the genocide. It has taken several months to come to agreement on a version of the bill that could move forward with bipartisan support. This bill is a better bill as a result of the discussions that took place, and I am happy to support it.

During committee consideration, I successfully offered an amendment to H.R. 3127 that states that the genocide taking place in Darfur is the result of acts of terrorism, and calls on the Secretary of State to designate the Government of Sudan-supported janjaweed as a foreign terrorist organization. It also calls on the Secretary to maintain Sudan's designation as a State Sponsor of Terrorism. I am grateful to my colleagues on the Subcommittee, and to Chairman Hyde and Ranking Member Lantos, for their support of my amendment.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3127 is a good bill but our effort cannot end here. By passing this legislation, we send a clear signal to the Government of Sudan, and the janjaweed, that the United States remains absolutely committed to seeing an end to the violence and genocide taking place in Darfur. However, while laws are important, they are merely words if not coupled with action—I urge the Administration to act further to stop this genocide. The people of Darfur deserve peace, and the Government of Sudan and the janjaweed militia deserve to be brought to justice and be held accountable for the crime of genocide.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this important legislation, H.R. 3127, strengthening sanctions on individuals and governments seen as responsible for the atrocities in the Darfur region of Sudan, and authorizing additional funds for peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts in the region.

After more than 3 years of conflict, between 300,000 and 400,000 innocent and impoverished civilians have died from government-sponsored violence, disease and starvation because of war, and more than 2 million people have fled their homes to internal camps and neighboring Chad.

Despite international condemnation of the Sudanese government, genocide and ethnic cleansing continue unabated.

What is keeping the United States and the international community from intervening meaningfully to stop this humanitarian crisis? What is keeping President Bush from acting with moral clarity and compassion?

While this Congress continues to slowly legislate on the Darfur genocide, the threat of sanctions has done little to end the atrocities. This dire crisis requires a much more robust response.

Our commitment to end the Darfur genocide must be judged by only one test: What are we doing that serves to end the killings and the suffering?

The aim should be to end the genocide, disarm the Arab militias, guarantee humanitarian

assistance, protect civilians, secure the refugee camps, and provide safety to families returning to their villages.

Military experts have estimated that these tasks will require 40,000 to 50,000 well-trained and equipped troops. We also have new and innovative technologies that could protect civilians. If we are serious about dealing with this most pressing human rights catastrophe, then we must pressure the Bush Administration and the international community to do all that is needed to stop the genocide in Darfur.

I call for less political maneuvering, and more real action.

Over three years have passed. Out of an estimated pre-conflict population of 7 million in Darfur, somewhere between 300,000 and 400,000 innocent civilians have died.

What are we waiting for? For the Sudanese government and the Arab militias to finish what they have started?

I support this bill, yet I urge my colleagues to support an international peacekeeping mission authorized to use force to protect civilians and disarm the Janjaweed—one with an adequate mandate, and well-trained and equipped soldiers.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3127, 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.

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 H.R. 3127.

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

There was no objection.

CONCERNING THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA'S BAN ON INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTIONS AND THE WELFARE OF ORPHANED OR ABANDONED CHILDREN IN ROMANIA

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 578) concerning the Government of Romania's ban on intercountry adoptions

and the welfare of orphaned or abandoned children in Romania.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 578

Whereas following the execution of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu in 1989, it was discovered that more than 100,000 underfed, neglected children throughout Romania were living in hundreds of squalid and inhumane institutions;

Whereas United States citizens responded to the dire situation of these children with an outpouring of compassion and assistance to improve conditions in those institutions and to provide for the needs of abandoned children in Romania;

Whereas, between 1990 and 2004, United States citizens adopted more than 8,200 Romanian children, with a similar response from Western Europe;

Whereas the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reported in March 2005 that more than 9,000 children a year are abandoned in Romania's maternity wards or pediatric hospitals and that child abandonment in Romania in "2003 and 2004 was no different from that occurring 10, 20, or 30 years ago";

Whereas there are approximately 37,000 orphaned or abandoned children in Romania today living in state institutions, an additional 49,000 living in temporary arrangements, such as foster care, and an unknown number of children living on the streets and in maternity and pediatric hospitals;

Whereas, on December 28, 1994, Romania ratified the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption which recognizes that "intercountry adoption may offer the advantage of a permanent family to a child for whom a suitable family cannot be found in his or her State of origin";

Whereas intercountry adoption offers the hope of a permanent family for children who are orphaned or abandoned by their biological parents;

Whereas UNICEF's official position on intercountry adoption, in pertinent part, states: "For children who cannot be raised by their own families, an appropriate alternative family environment should be sought in preference to institutional care, which should be used only as a last resort and as a temporary measure. Inter-country adoption is one of a range of care options which may be open to children, and for individual children who cannot be placed in a permanent family setting in their countries of origin, it may indeed be the best solution. In each case, the best interests of the individual child must be the guiding principle in making a decision regarding adoption.";

Whereas unsubstantiated allegations have been made about the fate of children adopted from Romania and the qualifications and motives of those who adopt internationally;

Whereas in June 2001, the Romanian Adoption Committee imposed a moratorium on intercountry adoption, but continued to accept new intercountry adoption applications and allowed many such applications to be processed under an exception for extraordinary circumstances;

Whereas on June 21, 2004, the Parliament of Romania enacted Law 272/2004 on "the protection and promotion of the rights of the child," which creates new requirements for declaring a child legally available for adoption;

Whereas on June 21, 2004, the Parliament of Romania enacted Law 273/2004 on adoption, which prohibits intercountry adoption except by a child's biological grandparent or grandparents;

Whereas there is no European Union law or regulation restricting intercountry adoptions to biological grandparents or requiring that restrictive laws be passed as a prerequisite for accession to the European Union;

Whereas the number of Romanian children adopted domestically is far less than the number abandoned and has declined further since enactment of Law 272/2004 and 273/2004 due to new, overly burdensome requirements for adoption;

Whereas prior to enactment of Law 273/2004, 211 intercountry adoption cases were pending with the Government of Romania in which children had been matched with adoptive parents in the United States, and approximately 1,500 cases were pending in which children had been matched with prospective parents in Western Europe; and

Whereas Romanian children, and all children, deserve to be raised in permanent families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the desire of the Government of Romania to improve the standard of care and well-being of children in Romania;

(2) urges the Government of Romania to complete the processing of the intercountry adoption cases which were pending when Law 273/2004 was enacted;

(3) urges the Government of Romania to amend its child welfare and adoption laws to decrease barriers to adoption, both domestically and intercountry, including by allowing intercountry adoption by persons other than biological grandparents;

(4) urges the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to work collaboratively with the Government of Romania to achieve these ends; and

(5) requests that the European Union and its member States not impede the Government of Romania's efforts to place orphaned or abandoned children in permanent homes in a manner that is consistent with Romania's obligations under the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption.

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.

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

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 578 expresses deep disappointment that the Romanian government has instituted a virtual ban on intercountry adoptions with serious implications for the well-being of orphaned and abandoned children in Romania.

Immediately after the December 1989 revolution, Mr. Speaker, which ousted the much-hated dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, the world learned that tens of thousands of underfed, neglected children were living in institutions, called orphanages, throughout Romania. A month after the fall of Ceausescu, Dorothy Taft, who is our deputy chief of staff at the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and I traveled to Bucharest and visited those orphanages. We also met with