

will be inducted into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame. The organized labor movement enjoys a rich history in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. From the mining strikes in the Copper Country of 1913–1914 to the present day, working men and women across the Upper Peninsula have exhibited a heritage of proud trade unionism. Mr. Kotler exemplifies that rich tradition by having served as an educator, a labor organizer and as a business agent.

Mr. Kotler served as Director of the Labor Education Program at Northern Michigan University from 1986 to 1994. During his tenure there, he coordinated and worked closely with the Labor Advisory Planning Committee. He is credited with building the university's Labor Education Program.

At Northern Michigan University, Mr. Kotler was responsible for developing and directing conferences, seminars and workshops that helped to educate the staff, officers, stewards and rank-and-file members of public and private sector local unions as well as the Michigan AFL–CIO and the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council. Much of Mr. Kotler's expertise focused on what he refers to as "training the trainer," in other words educating key union leaders and personnel to build stronger, more effective unions. This technique focuses on empowering unions to grow their own membership and more effectively bargain on behalf of their members.

Mr. Kotler's participation and leadership in the labor movement predates his work in the Upper Peninsula. In 1977, Mr. Kotler worked with the Service Employees International Union on a citywide ballot initiative in San Francisco. In the early 1980s, Mr. Kotler helped to organize hospital workers in Sonoma, California. In 1983, he returned to San Francisco to serve as the Business Representative and Organizer for the local Service Employees Union there.

This extensive work in the field of labor organizing made him uniquely qualified to develop and implement the curriculum of Northern Michigan University's Labor Education Program. Many of my constituents benefited from his tutelage as well as from his work on the Marquette County Central Labor Council where he served as a delegate.

As one might expect, since leaving Northern Michigan University in 1994, Mr. Kotler has continued his commitment to organized labor as a scholar and an organizer. Today he serves as the Director of the Cornell/New York State AFL–CIO Union Leadership Institute and as Associate Director of the Construction Industry Program. Since joining the faculty of Cornell, he has developed a number of innovative programs that have been used to strengthen unions not only in New York, but nationwide. He designed and developed programs such as the Construction Organizing Membership Education Training (COMET) and the Multi-Trade Organizing Volunteer Education (MOVE) curriculums that streamlined labor's organizing techniques in the construction industry.

While not a native of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Mr. Kotler's contributions to the area have endeared him to many of my constituents who came to view him as one of our own. The feeling appears to be mutual. As he described his Upper Peninsula neighbors, "The folks up there welcomed me with open arms. They taught me so much about the labor movement in the Upper Peninsula."

Since 1993, outstanding labor leaders and individuals who have contributed to organizing, workplace fairness, worker dignity, and the advancement of the labor movement in northern Michigan, have been honored with induction into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame is housed in the Superior Dome on the campus of Northern Michigan University in Marquette. Mr. Kotler is a deserving addition to this august group. I wish him all the best and ask that the U.S. House of Representatives join me in saluting Fred Kotler for his contributions to the Upper Peninsula Labor movement and his ongoing dedication to all working men and women in our nation.

STATEMENT OF ROGER P. WINTER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a statement by former special representative on Sudan, Roger P. Winter. This statement was delivered at a hearing on the current situation in Sudan—the House International Relations Committee Subcommittee on Africa.

Roger's testimony is compelling and I encourage all members to read it. The warning signs are written on the wall; if the international community fails to act, the genocide in Darfur can and will get worse.

The statement of Roger P. Winter, October 20, 2006, follows:

STATEMENT OF ROGER P. WINTER, FORMER SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ON SUDAN OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE

Sudan's National Congress Party is controlled by an intellectually-capable, radically-committed, conspiratorial and compassionless nucleus of individuals, long referred to as the National Islamic Front (NIF). In the seventeen years since they came to power by coup to abort an incipient peace process, they have consistently defied the international community and won. As individuals, the NIF has never paid a price for their crimes. Almost all of them are still in important positions.

The NIF core is a competent cadre of men who have an agenda, the pursuit of which has killed millions of Sudanese and uprooted and destroyed the lives of millions more. While their agenda is radically ideological, it is equally about personal power and enrichment. They are not at all suicidal, but they respond only to credible threats against their power and prosperity. The international community with its limitless posturing and (too often) empty words has, to date, never constituted a credible threat. During its seventeen-year reign, the NIF engaged seriously with critics only once, that being when confronted by a strong Sudanese Peoples Liberation Movement and Army (SPLM/A) and an energetic international coalition led by the United States. The result was the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), an incredible, detailed document that ended a twenty-two year war between the NIF government and the people of southern Sudan, the Nuba Mountains, Southern Blue Nile and Abyei. Despite Khartoum's deliberately slow and selective implementation, in my view, the CPA is now at very serious risk of survival.

Power and wealth in Sudan have historically been concentrated in "the center", in

fact in just a few tribes. All the peripheral populations—North, South, East and West—have, as a result, been marginalized, largely destitute, powerless and lacking development, regardless of their religious, cultural or ethnic background. The U.S. initiative beginning in 2001 made rather incredible progress in ending hostilities between the SPLM and the NIF government and opening up humanitarian access to war-affected people, raising the hopes and expectations of a better life for almost all Sudanese. That the peace process took four years is not surprising, given the egregious history to be overcome and the quality of the final text. The CPA was signed in January 2005. In April an SPLM delegation went to Khartoum to begin implementation arrangements. On landing at Khartoum's airport they were engulfed by joyous throngs of Sudanese of all backgrounds—Muslims, Christians, Africans, Arabs and others—hoisting the delegation onto their shoulders and dancing in the streets. They understood the implications of the CPA to be for all Sudanese. On July 8 when Dr. John de Mabior, chairman of the SPLM and Commander-in-Chief of the SPLA arrived in Khartoum to sign the Interim Constitution that was to implement the CPA, huge crowds of Northerners and Southerners estimated by some at 6–8 million came out to meet him. His popularity was such that, in a free election, it is likely that he could be elected President of Sudan by all the people. A New Sudan was being born.

But Darfur was in flames.

In February 2003, perhaps seeing the progress of CPA negotiations and concerned about being left out of the benefits of the CPA, "rebels" from Darfur's marginalized populations who were considered "African" as distinct from "Arab" initiated hostilities against the NIF government. The NIF responded precisely as it had in the war against the SPLA. This involved destruction of civilian populations, denial of humanitarian assistance to war-affected civilians, utilization of surrogate Arab militias in coordination with formal government military forces and pretence of themselves being the aggrieved party, being the "sovereign" government. The violence exhibited a character far beyond that which could fairly be described as "military". Ethnic cleansing was clear. Genocide was its truer name.

The CPA includes a provision that the South and potentially Abyei can legally secede from the Sudan state if a referendum in those areas, scheduled for 2011, so decides. (The people of Southern Blue Nile and the Nuba Mountains, to their great dismay, have no similar option and fear being overwhelmed by Khartoum eventually). The NIF committed itself to make unity attractive but the war in Darfur has demonstrated to the SPLM that unity in a state dominated by the NIF would be anything but attractive. Many core NIF adherents were appalled by this provision, not just at the potential dismemberment of the Sudanese state but also because a large percentage of Sudan's known oil reserves, now increasingly coming on line, are located in the South. If the South legally seceded, that oil would then belong to it as a new separate country. Those NIF personnel also saw other CPA interim provisions as contemptible: that Dr. Garang would become Sudan's First Vice President, that the South would have its own government, that the SPLA would continue to exist as a component of "the national army", but separate from the Government's army, and that national elections would be held.

So, why did the NIF government sign the CPA? With its very limited allegiance from the Sudanese public and increasing military threats from Sudan's other disaffected marginalized populations, with the international war on terror potentially having

implications for Sudan itself, being on the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism and also being the political birthing place for Osama bin Laden, not to mention the NIF's own brand of radical politics, the NIF needed to buy time. It also hadn't, despite a twenty two year war, been able to defeat the SPLA. It was in their interests, at least "for now", to sign. At least signing guaranteed it six and one-half years of protected existence. Who could know what opportunities for a course-correction might materialize within that timespan?

On July 30, 2005 Dr. John de Mabior, the embodiment of the possibility of a united New Sudan, was killed in a helicopter crash. The opportunity had arrived. That very day, I believe, the NIF recalculated its future course of action.

To seize the opportunity, the NIF needed to eliminate the Darfur opposition (civilian and military), destabilize the SPLM, corrupt or abort any potential for a viable referendum, maintain possession of the oil fields of Abyei, and ensure the degradation of the SPLA. The NIF has seen progress on all of these in the last fourteen months.

We are currently witnessing the NIF's attempt to achieve the elimination of its Darfur opposition. Khartoum is attempting to change the realities on the ground in Darfur before the international community gets serious, if that is possible. They believe they have "read" us, the international community, all accurately, the U.S. included. They believe there will be a continued slow response on our part to Darfur's genocide and acceptable limits to whatever actions are ultimately taken. After all, that's been pretty much the case throughout their tenure. Thus, the liquidation of the Darfur opposition is now in motion.

The NIF has successfully marginalized the SPLM within the "Government of National Unity" created by the CPA. The SPLM is largely powerless to affect significant national policy. The NIF has "bought" several SPLM officials and also inserted into the SPLM apparatus other key individuals whose loyalty is to Khartoum. Several veteran SPLM leaders, brilliant, capable men who were critical in achieving the CPA, have now left the country in despair.

The process for undermining the referendum is now underway. The first elections, preliminary to any referendum, are scheduled for 2008. To prepare for them, basic elements, laws and structures must be put in place, especially in a context where there is no history of elections. For example, there has been no proper census in Sudan since 1983. Thus, the architecture for elections is being put in place in a context largely controlled by Khartoum loyalists. And, too, the international community is being of only limited assistance to the SPLM in its conversion from a rebel movement into a nationally competitive political party, a serious shortcoming.

The future of Abyei, a place little understood by outsiders, is a critical issue as it is the repository of a significant amount of Sudan's oil; most of Abyei is an oil field. Currently that oil is being extracted under Government contracts with oil companies from China, with its UN Security Council veto power, Malaysia, India and Sudan itself. Its products are fueling the NIF's war in Darfur. The CPA provided for an Abyei Boundaries Commission (ABC) to determine Abyei's actual borders, so that oil revenues can be properly allocated. The ABC determined the boundaries but President Beshir has rejected it and also the appointment of an interim local government as provided in the CPA. To

buy time as the clock ticks, he refuses to proceed. The highly volatile Abyei area, thus, remains largely in the hands of the Sudanese Army.

The Sudan Peoples Liberation Army is, in many ways, the reason the CPA exists. This rebel army, with very limited resources, could not be defeated by the Sudan army. But that was then; this is now. The balance may be changing. The riches of Khartoum are being used to modernize and equip the Sudan Army. The SPLA is largely as it was several years ago, perhaps even less so. In significant part, this is due to us. Endless debating regarding what the U.S. is authorized to do to the help in the transformation of the SPLA into a modern military force is very dangerous. It could cost South Sudan and potentially all of Sudan tragically in the future. Transformation of the SPLA is the surest guarantee that the CPA will survive.

It is my view the war in Darfur and the survival of the CPA are inextricably entwined, and the NIF sees it. If, through weak international responses to genocide, the NIF succeeds in eliminating its Darfur opposition, and that reality is combined with the reality of the loss of Dr. Garang, the only southern leader who had the stature to compete successfully with Khartoum, the stage is set for the NIF to entirely undermine the CPA. The SPLM can again compete, and its current leadership is trying to so position it, but its recovery from the loss of Dr. Garang and from the destabilization efforts of the NIF will take time. And the clock is ticking.

Based on this analysis, I encourage the following urgent steps:

1. Deploy non-consentually the now-stymied UN protection force. In fact, some of the UN force already in the South, in such places as Wau virtually next door to Darfur, could be moved there quickly. In the meantime, declare and enforce a no-fly zone for Sudan military aircraft throughout Darfur. U.S. resources exist in Djibouti that could be used for enforcement purposes.

2. Provide substantial assistance to the SPLM to empower its participation in governance at all levels. to be seriously competitive as a national political party and to effectively govern the South. The Government of South Sudan also needs assistance in anticorruption efforts, such as setting up an office of Inspector General of Government. Some of these issues were discussed by Salva Kiir, President of South Sudan, when he met with President Bush in July.

3. Focus now urgently on the upcoming interim elections and ultimately the referendum. Time is flying by, given what needs to be accomplished. Monitor preparations in detail and equip the SPLM to be able to fully participate in preparations.

4. Take Abyei seriously. If war breaks out again between the NIF and the SPLM, it will in my estimation likely begin in Abyei. Expose President Beshir's perfidy in delaying. Raise the issue at the UN Security Council and other appropriate forums.

5. Seriously assist the SPLA in its conversion from a rebel force to a modern military. The delays already caused by U.S. persistent bureaucracies have the potential for actually encouraging war and the ultimate loss of life and of the CPA.

6. Finally, given the "no negative consequences" pattern experienced by the NIF for crimes committed, accountability for past, current and future crimes is a critical issue. Unfortunately for Sudanese, the International Criminal Court seems to have disappeared. An internationally agreed-on system of accountability is desperately needed for Sudan's atrocities. The U.S. should ac-

tively take leadership in addressing this crying need.

Believe me, we are in really dangerous times regarding Sudan. It could happen that the CPA is stamped "CANCELLED", along with an incredible additional number of Sudanese lives. And if that happened, it would blot out one of the finest U.S. initiatives of the last decade.

---

HONORING THE KANSAS CITY HISPANIC NEWS ON THEIR TENTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2006*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, during this Hispanic Heritage Month, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to Americans of Hispanic descent in my District. Joe and Ramona Arce, owners of Arce Communications, Inc., which publishes the Kansas City Hispanic News, are celebrating the Tenth Anniversary of the start of their local Hispanic publication. On September 16, 1996, the Arce family: Joe, Ramona, their daughters, Lisa and Rachel, along with the assistance of family friends, Jesus Ortiz and Kathleen Cruden, set out on their journey of providing informative local news on topics of interest for the growing Latino community in the Kansas City Metropolitan Area with their first ten page bilingual newspaper.

Mr. Joe Arce—a product of Kansas City, Missouri's Westside neighborhood, a proud long-standing Mexican-American neighborhood—has a long history of civic involvement and long been known as an advocate of the Latino community, having served on the Boards of many local non-profit organizations, such as the Guadalupe Centers, the Hispanic Media Association, and the Center for Management Assistance. He has also served on Advisory Boards, including with the Cabot Westside Clinic and Heart of America United Way. With over 25 years of news experience, both as a cameraman and reporter at WDAF-TV Channel 4, Joe and his family envisioned the formation of a new vehicle by which they could "transmit" the stories of local people as opposed to those carried in the mainstream metropolitan papers. I am proud of the Arce family's accomplishment, by reaching their goal of providing in-depth stories to the readership of the Greater Kansas City Area. The Kansas City Hispanic News has emerged as an important link between the local Latino community and the general public. Joe and Ramona Arce have demonstrated how a passion to obtain newsworthy information and a motivation to distribute valuable information can improve a community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues in the 109th Congress please join me in saluting the Arce Family and the Kansas City Hispanic News for their years of dedicated service to the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area. Joe and Ramona, thank you for all your hard work in providing a quality newspaper for our community and congratulations on your 10th Anniversary.