

Iraq trumps all other needs. The American people do not agree with this administration's priorities. They want action, they want real solutions to our domestic problems, and they want to fight a real war on terrorism, not the phony war on terrorism the administration is fighting in Iraq.

When the President signed the No Child Left Behind Act, Madam Speaker, he said it was the most important piece of legislation most of us will ever work on. The education of our children is far more important to the future of our country than an endless and counterproductive occupation of another country.

That is why Congress must finally stand up to the administration and say no, no to supplemental funding that would bring our total spending in Iraq this fiscal year alone to \$160 billion. Madam Speaker, that's over \$13 billion a month, or nearly \$450 million per day.

Almost exactly a year ago, the American people sent us to Congress to end the occupation of Iraq. It's time that we do it. We must use our power of the purse to fully fund the safe, orderly and responsible redeployment of all of our troops out of Iraq, and that includes the withdrawal of all of our military contractors as well.

As if one occupation army weren't enough, these independent contractors comprise a second occupation army that is angering the Iraqi people and actually making life much harder for our very own troops.

Madam Speaker, we can't afford to keep throwing money into the bottomless pit of Iraq. That appears to be what our leaders in the White House want us to do. But their policy is bankrupting all of us politically, economically, and morally. It is time that we come to our senses; it is time to end this madness.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

DARFUR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, tonight this House passed House Resolutions 740, 573 and 726 with regard to Darfur and Sudan.

Madam Speaker, decades from now our children's children will look back on these times as an ugly blemish on human history. They will remember a time when innocent people were senselessly slaughtered in the Darfur region of Sudan. The question is whether they will look back and see that this Nation and this Congress stood up for what is

right and just, or did we sit idly by and watch from the sidelines.

Madam Speaker, we must be on the right side of this issue. That's why I'm so glad that we have passed these resolutions today. Although much work remains to be done, they represent a step in the right direction.

The passage of these bills rightfully pressures the Sudanese Government to end civil strife and ongoing human rights violations in Darfur, which threatens stability in the region and the very fabric of Sudanese life.

As you know, Madam Speaker, Darfur remains in great peril. Hundreds of thousands of Sudanese have lost their lives since the conflicts spiraled out of control in February of 2003. Over 2 million civilians have been internally displaced, and an estimated 215,000 more persons have been externally displaced in such neighboring states as Chad. Even for those who are internally displaced persons, they have experienced anything but a safe haven outside of Darfur while ongoing killing, torture, rape, looting and the unlawful destruction of their property by all parties continues, mainly by the janjaweed, associated militia groups, and the institution that should be protecting them, the Sudanese Government.

Indeed, as House Resolution 726 points out, it has become treacherous for women or young ladies in Darfur or eastern Chad to leave their villages to collect firewood or food from the market. They are at risk of being raped and assaulted, which, unfortunately, to date is exactly what has occurred to thousands.

Although some strides have been made in reducing the government's participation in continued human rights abuses in Darfur, militia groups remain a very real and present threat for the civilians in Darfur and eastern Chad, despite peace negotiations.

Particularly, as reported by the United Nations, these systematic human rights violations have been and continue to be committed with total impunity throughout Sudan, especially in Darfur. It is clear that the Government of Sudan has taken to turning a blind eye to such atrocities, choosing instead to provide strikingly few prosecutions, sentencing or even adequate examinations of war crimes or crimes against humanity, whether by criminal courts or those courts established to investigate the violations.

These failures by the Sudanese Government to respect and abide by customary international norms, international humanitarian and human rights laws embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Geneva Conventions and the Convention on the Rights of a Child that it is a party to demonstrates a lack of respect for international law and responsibility that it has to protect its citizenry from unacceptable levels of abuse.

Meanwhile, this Bush administration has held tightly to a hands-off approach by failing to send any troops to Sudan, despite there clearly being a lack of an adequate and capable number of African Union troops, amounting to a mere 7,000.

The President promised to not allow another Rwanda-style atrocity to occur; however, it appears to be happening once again, with little being done about it. Even the peace negotiations that recently occurred in Libya appear to be faltering, with two key militia groups failing to show up for the meeting.

As such, I congratulate my colleagues in passing these three vital resolutions this evening. And I thank the Congress, which has chosen to answer the pleas for help by the people of Darfur while the administration has failed to adequately respond.

We must act with a great sense of urgency. History will judge whether we have synchronized our conduct with our conscience.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WATERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WATERS addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE PERU TRADE AGREEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICHAUD. I thank Madam Speaker. This weekend, Senator John Edwards announced his opposition to the Peru Trade Agreement. The reason? As his statement says, "All of these agreements replicate the terrible features of NAFTA." Senator Edwards is right. It is more of the same old, same old. A leading Presidential candidate is saying it. The American people are sick of it. And so why is Congress pushing for it? Why would we push for a steady stream of lost jobs that gives incentives to multinational