

CALLING FOR ACTION ON DARFUR
AND TO PREVENT GENOCIDE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention once again to the crisis in Darfur and to thank the Genocide Prevention Project, Darfur advocates, and survivors of past genocides who have come together to mark this April as Genocide Prevention Month in order to raise critical awareness.

In April 2009, the slaughter in Darfur will enter its seventh year. During that time roughly 450,000 have been killed and more than two million displaced. It is an international disgrace that on this April anniversary of the start of the genocide, the people of Darfur are suffering more than ever. Just recently thirteen international aid organizations were expelled from the area, severing the final lifeline. It is imperative that they be allowed to return.

Along with Darfur, past civilian slaughters similarly mark anniversaries in April. These include the tragedies of the Holocaust, Rwanda, Bosnia, Cambodia, and Armenia. With this significance of April in mind, survivors of atrocity crimes have untied with advocates to observe Genocide Prevention Month this month—as a way to remind the world of its responsibility to the people of Darfur and to protect other civilian populations under threat. In April, survivors, and their descendants and supporters, will honor their dead with more than one hundred events. The plea at these events will be for protection for the people in Darfur and an effective global genocide prevention system.

To launch the month-long commemoration, more than sixty survivor and anti-genocide organizations from around the world have signed the following statement:

“Remarkably, six genocides have major anniversaries in the month of April—a tragic testament to the international community’s inexcusable failure to stop inhuman and barbarous acts.

This April, we—survivors of genocide and mass atrocities, their descendants, and anti-genocide advocates—will honor those who were lost and those who survived. And we will urge immediate action to stop the ongoing Darfur genocide.

Our collective voices will remind the international community to make its commitment to mass atrocity prevention absolute. Until we do, we are destined to repeat the most shameful chapters in human history.”

I now would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a copy of this statement along with a list of the organizations that have signed it. I want to thank all of those involved in this effort. Their work is critical in making sure people never forget the human suffering in Darfur and commit themselves to preventing or stopping genocide, wherever and whenever it may occur.

GENOCIDE PREVENTION MONTH STATEMENT

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Advocacy Project, Aegis Trust, Americans Against the Darfur Genocide, Armenian Assembly of America, American Jewish World Service, Armenian National Committee of America, Armenian National Committee of Canada, Armenian Youth Federation, Eastern USA, Awareness Unlimited, Bronfman Center for Jewish Student Life at NYU, Cambodian Americans for Human Rights and Democracy (CAHRAD), Canadians Against Slavery and Torture in Sudan, Center for Social Development (Phnom Penh, Cambodia), Colorado Coalition for Genocide Awareness and Action, Council for Prejudice Reduction, Citizens for Global Solutions, Damanga Coalition for Freedom and Democracy, Darfur Alert Coalition, Dear Sudan, Do Something, Dream for Darfur.

Educating Against Prejudices, Bosnian Library at the Conrad Sulzer Public Library of Chicago, Foundation Rwanda, FRA Nor Seround—Nouvelle Génération Arménienne, Generations of the Shoah International, Genocide Intervention Network, Genocide Prevention Project, Genocide Watch, Great Rainbow, I Stop Genocide, IBUKA, Institute for the Study of Genocide, International Association of Genocide Scholars, Investors Against Genocide, Kentuckiana Interfaith Taskforce on Darfur, Khmer Legacies, Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre, Jewish Community Relations Council of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, Liquidnet Holdings, Massachusetts Coalition to Save Darfur, Minnesota Interfaith Darfur Coalition, Miracle Corners of the World, Mothers of Srebrenica.

New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, New Jersey Responds to the Crisis in Darfur Coalition, Pittsburgh Darfur Emergency Coalition, Public Interest Projects, Righteous Pictures, Save Darfur Coalition, Second Generation of Los Angeles (Children of Holocaust Survivors), Society for Threatened People, South African Holocaust Foundation, Southeast Asia Resource Action Center, Southern Sudanese Voice for Freedom, STAND, Stop Genocide Now, Survivors Fund (SURF), The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education, The Sparks Fly Upward Foundation, Three Generations, UN Watch, Voice of Witness, Youth Initiative for Human Rights.

A TRIBUTE TO ROGER SNOBLE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, to celebrate the 45-year transportation career of Roger Snoble, who will retire on April 8, 2009. Roger Snoble, and his wife

Kit, reside in Pasadena, CA in the 29th Congressional District and he worked at the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the past eight years, located in the 34th Congressional District.

Over the past 45 years, Roger has applied tremendous skill and leadership to create better public transportation systems for all of his communities. As a result, he has distinguished himself as one of the Nation’s foremost experts and practitioners in the transportation sector. He began his transportation career in 1965 as a planner for the TriCounty Regional Planning Commission in Akron, Ohio. He then moved on to work for Akron’s Metro Transit district in 1971. And in 1973, Roger moved to California and worked his way through the ranks of planning and scheduling to be the President and General Manager of the San Diego Transit Corporation.

Always wanting to challenge himself, Roger went on to serve as President and Executive Director of the Dallas Area Rapid Transit District (DART) for seven and a half years. In 2001, Roger was appointed to serve as Chief Executive Officer for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), a multimodal transportation agency responsible for bus and rail operations, planning and construction in Los Angeles County. During his seven and a half years at Metro, Roger has guided the agency through successful openings of the Metro Gold and Orange Lines, introduced scores of popular Metro Rapid Lines, and seen Metro named “America’s best large transit agency.” He also co-founded the Mobility-21 Coalition and was instrumental in the passage of Measure R, a ½ cent sales tax that will fund a comprehensive package of new transit, street and highway improvements in Los Angeles County for the next 30 years.

Roger has won numerous awards throughout his transportation career. The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) named Snoble “Transit Manager of the Year” in 1998. Under his leadership, Metro was named by APTA as “Outstanding Public Transportation System” in 2006, and DART was cited by APTA as the “Transit Agency of the Year” in 1997.

Although we know Roger primarily through his role in transportation, Roger and his wife, Kit, are founding members of the African Conservation Fund, which assists communities in the East Africa in creating economic opportunities that result in improved wildlife management and wealthier and healthier communities. In addition, Roger has served on the boards of the San Diego Zoo, Dallas Zoological Association and the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association. He recently joined the Living Desert Zoo and Gardens in Palm Desert, CA. Through these experiences, Roger has a vast photojournal library that will continue to expand in his retirement as he leads safaris to educate communities about the importance of conservation as well as economic development opportunities in surrounding areas. He also has extended his photojournalist editing skills to many local non-profits as another example of his passion to help others.

We extend our warm congratulations and appreciation to Roger and his wife Kit for Roger’s tireless service to the public transportation communities in Akron, OH, San Diego, CA, Dallas, Texas and Los Angeles County and wish him well in retirement.