

It is important to recognize genocide for what it is, but it is even more important that we stop genocide from taking place. The world has said "never again." The world must mean it. In visiting the Holocaust Museum here in Washington, D.C., I was reminded of an earlier genocide.

□ 1945

While there, I saw the Wall of Honor recognizing those who placed their own lives at risk to save the lives of Jews.

May we be courageous enough to deserve such recognition in a wall of honor today in stopping the genocide of today.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives in recognition of the fifth anniversary of the declaration by the United States Congress of genocide in Darfur, Sudan.

On July 22, 2004, members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate united to pay witness to irrefutable evidence that a systematic campaign of ethnic cleansing was underway in Darfur, perpetrated by the Sudanese government and characterized by forced displacements, mass murder, abduction, torture, and rape.

Five years have passed since Congress first declared this tragedy genocide. To date, over 300,000 Darfuris have lost their lives and nearly 3,000,000 have been displaced. And yet, despite the signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement in May 2006 and the deployment of a joint African Union-United Nations peace-keeping force, the deadly conflict in Darfur continues.

We therefore unite once again and we will continue doing so, until this tragedy ends; to honor the heroic efforts of dedicated humanitarian workers who put their lives at risk; to recognize the actions of responsible nations who refuse to stand idly by as innocent people suffer; and to shame those who, in the face of unspeakable horrors, choose to do nothing.

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 159, recognizing the fifth anniversary of the declaration of genocide in Darfur.

An August 2008 New Republic piece said the following about Darfur: "No genocide has ever been so thoroughly documented while it was taking place . . . in the case of the genocide in Darfur, ignorance has never been possible." Sobering words as we consider this resolution.

I have visited Sudan five times, most recently in July 2004 when I led the first congressional delegation with Senator SAM BROWNBACK to Darfur. I witnessed the nightmare with my own eyes. Over 300,000 Darfuris have died and nearly 3 million have been displaced.

We saw the same scorched earth tactics from Khartoum in the brutal 20-year civil war with the South.

Five years ago this month Congress was the first to call the atrocities in Darfur by their rightful name, genocide.

But this is not a tragedy relegated to the history books—rather Sudan today demands attention and action.

China has been complicit in this tragedy as Sudan's largest foreign investor and yet China has failed to use its influence. According to

the Congressional Research Service, China reportedly imports an estimated 64 percent of Sudan's oil and China's National Petroleum Corporation is the largest shareholder (47 percent) in the two biggest oil consortiums in Sudan, Petrodar and the Greater Nile Petroleum Operating Company (GNPOC).

China also supplies weapons to the Government of Sudan. Some human rights groups accuse the Chinese government of being the principal supplier of weapons in violation of the U.N. weapons embargo on Sudan.

And yet Sudan only earned a passing reference in President Obama's remarks this week at the Strategic Economic Dialogue between the United States and China.

But perhaps most importantly, and most timely, almost six months into the Obama administration, the State Department is still conducting a "comprehensive review" of U.S.-Sudan policy.

Virtually nothing concrete has emerged. The little that has leaked out in press reports reveals an administration that appears divided at the highest levels over whether genocide is still taking place in Darfur. On an issue of this magnitude such confusion sends the wrong message.

On this, the five-year anniversary of the declaration of genocide in Darfur, I ask, what is the Obama administration's policy on Darfur?

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I also yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 159.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 838. An act to provide for the conveyance of a parcel of land held by the Bureau of Prisons of the Department of Justice in Miami Dade County, Florida, to facilitate the construction of a new educational facility that includes a secure parking area for the Bureau of Prisons, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment

in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2647. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, to provide special pays and allowances to certain members of the Armed Forces, expand concurrent receipt of military retirement and VA disability benefits to disabled military retirees, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2647) "An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, to provide special pays and allowances to certain members of the Armed Forces, expand concurrent receipt of military retirement and VA disability benefits to disabled military retirees, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BYRD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. NELSON, (FL), Mr. NELSON (NE), Mr. BAYH, Mr. WEBB, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. UDALL (CO), Mr. HAGAN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BURR, Mr. VITTER, and Ms. COLLINS, be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1390. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans and some Democrats have been highlighting the problems with the proposed Democrat health care bill.

The Rosenberg-Richmond Chamber of Commerce in Fort Bend County, Texas, represents over 800 businesses that have deep concerns with this massive intrusion of government-run health care. Last week they passed a resolution strongly opposing the current health care proposals.

Highlights of the resolution include: "a government plan would be an unfair competitor, with the government acting as both a team owner and the referee."

Another quote: "New taxes and fees for businesses and/or individuals that