Madam Speaker, I rise to

support H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability

Act. This bill imposes sanctions on

the government of Sudan and blocks the assets

and restricts travel for individuals who are

responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes

or crimes against humanity in the Darfur region of Sudan.

More than 450,000 people have died since

2003 as a result of the genocide in Darfur.

There are two-and-a-half million displaced

people in camps in Darfur and another

350,000 in refugee camps in neighboring

Chad. Almost 7,000 people are dying every

month in Darfur. There can be no doubt that

what is taking place in Darfur is genocide, and

the government of Sudan is responsible.

Crimes against humanity in Darfur have escalated

in recent months. Over 500 women

were raped over the summer in one camp

alone. There have been renewed attacks and

aerial bombardment, and twelve humanitarian

workers were killed, two of them in the last 4

weeks. If the United Nations does not intervene

in Darfur now, the death toll could rise

dramatically in the next few months.

Earlier this year, I visited the Darfur region

with my good friend from California, Congresswoman

NANCY PELOSI, and I was deeply disturbed

by what I saw. As far as the eyes could

see, there were crowds of displaced people

who had been driven from their homes, living

literally on the ground with little tarps just covering

them. It is unconscionable that this

should continue.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this

bill and take a firm stand against the crime of

genocide in Darfur.

The world stood by and watched the genocide

that occurred in Rwanda. The world has

noted over and over again the atrocities of the

Holocaust. We must take action now to prevent

a repeat of these horrific chapters in

human history.