Mr. Speaker, I rise

today in absolute strong support of

H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability

Act. I thank Mr. LANTOS,

our ranking member of the International

Relations Committee, for his

continued leadership on issues of importance

to the committee, a person

who can speak of genocide, being the

only Member in Congress who is a Holocaust

survivor. So this is very personal,

as it is with all of us.

I would like to thank Chairman HYDE

for the work that he and his staff did

for being open to negotiations with me

and my staff and other Members as

well as those of other members of the

Subcommittee on Africa, Global

Human Rights and International Operations,

chaired by Representative

SMITH, my friend from New Jersey, who

has done an outstanding job chairing

the subcommittee.

I would also like to thank Congressman

WOLF for his continued work, who

for many, many years has been involved

in Sudan; and Congressman

TANCREDO, who went to Southern

Sudan on his first CODEL a number of

years ago with Senator BROWNBACK and

myself; and to MELVIN WATT of the

Congressional Black Caucus and BARBARA

LEE and others who have stood

shoulder to shoulder opposing this horrendous

genocide.

It was nearly 2 years ago on June 24

in 2004 where I stood with the Congressional

Black Caucus, Leader PELOSI,

and TOM TANCREDO and introduced H.

Con. Res. 467, declaring that genocide

was occurring in Darfur, Sudan and

that the government of Sudan was responsible.

This is the government

which harbored Osama bin Laden for 5

years in his country and aided and

abetted him and assisted him.

Tragically and to our own shame, the

genocide continues today, almost 2

years later, unabated. Many people

were surprised when the Congress approved

the genocide resolution. And

then the next night Senator FRIST,

with unanimous consent in the Senate,

had the genocide resolution passed in

the Senate and the President indicated

at the United Nations that genocide

was going on after Colin Powell declared

it for the State Department.

Mr. Speaker, I have walked through

the camps of the Darfur people who

were violently forced by government

troops and the Janjaweed mercenaries

to run for their lives. I have seen the

faces in the pictures that Leader

PELOSI showed and to hear the horror

stories.

Try to imagine what it is like to run

away from everything you have known

in an instance at gunpoint, to look

back at your home, at your village, to

see them engulfed in flames. Imagine

the cries of scores of men and women,

young and old, being brutally killed,

terrorized, raped, beaten.

What continues to go on in Darfur

today is the ultimate form of terrorism.

An estimated 400,000 have already

died from murder, starvation, diarrhea,

and preventable diseases. Nearly

3 million were forced from their

homes into other parts of the region or

into Chad. Now the security nightmare

has spilled over because the Janjaweed

has gone into Chad. And this is the

same government that for 20 years had

a North-South war where 4 million people

were displaced and 2 million people

died. So this is a government responsible

for 6 million displaced people, 21⁄2

million people dead. This government

does not deserve to even be called a

government.

Truthfully, it is difficult to imagine.

We are half a world away, safe. That is

why we bear even a greater responsibility.

What can we do? We must call on

President Bush to immediately push

the National Congress Party to disarm

the Janjaweed, to give the command to

the government troops to stop killing

innocent people, stop raping, to send

those responsible for atrocities in

Darfur to appropriate international authorities

as called for in Security

Council Resolution 1593, and to comply

with Security Council Resolutions 1564,

1591, and 1556.

Whether they are government officials

such as Security and Intelligence

Chief Salah Gosh or Vice President

Taha, who leads the Janjaweed, as alleged,

we must make sure that this

ends.

I would like to just conclude by saying

even in my district on Sunday,

April 9, the End the Genocide-Save

Darfur will be having a rally with the

American Jewish Congress, the American

Jewish World Service, the United

Jewish Communities of MetroWest,

Help Darfur Now. So everyone is coming

together.