Mr. Speaker, the Darfur

Peace and Accountability Act passed the

House today, Wednesday April 5, 2006. This

Act calls for action. The specific intent and

purpose of this Act must be implemented immediately

by the Administration. It is too late

for more words on the horrors of Darfur no

matter how strong the words. As Nicholas

Kristoff in his persistent, piercing Times columns

has pointed out that for years, we have

said ‘‘Never Again, Again.’’ And yet, the slow

genocide continues in Darfur. Babies die of

hunger and thirst, women suffer a deliberate

policy of rape; men are castrated and shot in

the head. The starvation, the deaths, the burning

of villages, the poisoning of wells, the

slaughter of domestic animals on which people

depend, the brutal killing of children in

front of their mothers continues while the

world watches. ‘‘Uncover Your Eyes’’ Mr.

Kristoff tells us. ‘‘Uncover Your Eyes.’’ (Nicholas

D. Kristoff, June 7, 2005).

The killing in Darfur is the first Genocide of

the 21st Century. There is only one approach

to a genocide: It must be stopped using all

necessary means; and those that perpetuate it

must be held accountable. There is no excuse

for failing to hold accountable those who arm,

condone and assist in genocide; most especially

the excuse for a failure to hold a government

accountable must not be ‘‘the war on terror.’’

Those who arm and support the

Janjaweed militia as the government in Khartoum

continues to do are terrorists. If you

doubt it, then uncover your eyes: the

Janjaweed seized nine boys from a village

called Saleya, stripped them naked, tied them

up, cut off their noses and ears, gouged out

their eyes and shot them to death before leaving

them near a public well. Nearby villagers

got the message and fled. Currently rapes

take place when women collect firewood. If

the men collect the firewood, they are castrated

and then shot in the head.

The United States has given a great deal of

humanitarian aid to the refuge camps where

thousands of people of Darfur live. They cannot

go back to their villages. The representatives

from the State Department say the starvation

and malnutrition rates for these people

have slowed since 2004. However, they are

unable to feed themselves; if they go back to

their villages and try to restore their dwellings

and grow crops; they will be killed. There is

nothing to indicate the genocide has been

called off. The non-Arab tribes from the Darfur

region of Sudan are marked for death because

of their tribal membership and the fact

that they are non-Arab Africans.

We know what needs to be done. We have

the time to do what needs to be done. We

have the means, the influence, and the power.

What we need is the will and the leadership.

First the United States must recognize that if

the genocide is to be stopped, the United

States will have to stop it. This is a most wonderful

opportunity never before presented to a

leader or a country. President Bush on behalf

of all the compassionate citizens of this country

must seize this opportunity.

Second, the State Department with the leadership

of the President must recognize that

neither the mandate nor the troop strength of

the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) is

adequate to protect civilians in Darfur. Third,

although the United Nations Security Council

has taken steps toward establishing a United

Nations peacekeeping mission for Darfur, it

could take up to a year for such a mission to

deploy fully and the people of Darfur cannot

wait that long. Therefore, the African Union

must request assistance not only from the

United Nations but also from NATO. NATO is

needed immediately; Pursuant to Chapter VII

of the Charter of the United Nations a peacekeeping

force for Darfur must be approved. It

must be well trained and equipped and have

adequate troop strength to protect the people

of Darfur and stop the deaths of helpless, unarmed

civilians many of whom are under the

age of five.

In order to achieve this, President Bush

must propose that NATO consider how to implement

and enforce a declared no-fly zone in

Darfur and deploy troops to Darfur to support

to the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS)

until a United Nations peacekeeping force is

fully deployed in the region. President Bush

must also approve supplemental funding to

support a NATO mission in Darfur and the African

Union Mission in Sudan and called upon

NATO allies led by the Untied States to support

such a mission and to call upon NATO

headquarters staff to begin planning for such

a mission.

President Bush has the opportunity that

comes once in a presidency and perhaps

once in a lifetime. He can save an entire people,

their elders, their parents, their children.

He can stop the rapes, the maiming of children

and women, the acts of barbarism we

have shut our eyes to because they are unbearable

to look at. I implore President Bush

on behalf of his fellow Americans, uncover

your eyes and open your heart. Stop the

genocide in Darfur.