Mr. Speaker, I rise

today to support the passage of the Darfur

Peace and Accountability Act. This bill reflects

the United States’ continued commitment to

see that the violence ends and a lasting peace

is achieved in Darfur.

Darfur has already been acknowledged as

the worst human rights tragedy since the 1994

Rwandan genocide. Nowhere else have we

recently seen such a massive attack on innocent

civilians who are left to suffer in complete

isolation, cut off from the rest of the world.

Nearly 400,000 people have already died in

Darfur and over two million people continue to

live as refugees and internally displaced persons.

Thousands of women have been raped

and sexually abused and children are left to

die from malnutrition, dysentery and infectious

diseases.

Mr. Speaker, last month’s approval by the

House of funding for Sudan is a solid commitment

that brings us closer to resolving the crisis

in Darfur and helping those in need. But it

is not enough. Congress must continue and

hold steadfast to the basic principles of freedom

and human rights that we stand for and

press on until justice is brought to the

Darfurians.