Mr.

Speaker, we have just had a very vigorous

debate on the foreign policy of

America. There are many issues that

drew the attention of Members. Many

of those issues centered around the

issues of human rights and even genocide.

But as we end this week I think it

is important to remind Americans

again that genocide does exist, and it is

actively being implemented in the nation

of Sudan in Africa.

Many of us have been meeting over a

series of days and weeks to find an immediate

resolution to this horrible and

horrific crisis. I am gratified that a

resolution sponsored by the gentleman

from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) and the

gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF)

have now been offered in the Senate by

Senators BROWNBACK and CORZINE.

The other body is speaking, and we

are likewise seeking an immediate response

in the House. But even these actions

are not enough, and I would hope

next week that my colleagues would

have the opportunity to vote on a resolution

that declares that the government

of Sudan is implementing and

perpetrating genocide.

What is the crux of the crisis, and

why do I come to the floor of the House

to continuously remind Members along

with others who have been in the leadership

role on this issue that we cannot

forget? Why? Because just a few short

years ago we are reminded of the million-

plus that died in Rwanda while the

world simply watched. So many of us

have said, ‘‘Not on my clock.’’

With every fabric of our bodies, we

are refusing to allow the murderous act

of the Janjaweed in Sudan and the

Khartoum government to continue

without impunity. People are dying,

and we must cease and have them cease

and desist.

Allow me to share some of the words

of John Prendergast, who was formerly

with African affairs in the Clinton administration

and now with the International

Crisis Group. He had a unique

experience. Making note of the fact

that many Members of Congress have

gone to Sudan, others will be going.

Secretary of State Powell has gone.

Secretary General Kofi Annan has

gone, but they along with others have

been in areas controlled by the government.

Mr. Prendergast was able to

cross over to areas not controlled by

the government, and this is what he

saw.

He said, ‘‘Indeed, I saw numbing evidence

of such a campaign in this Muslim

region of Sudan which is populated

by Arabs and non-Arabs. Burned villages

confirmed harrowing stories we

heard from Darfurians who were lucky

enough to make it to the refugee

camps in Chad. About 1.5 million people

have been left homeless and as

many as 300,000 may be dead by year’s

end. In village after village that I visited,

the painstakingly accumulated

wealth of the non-Arab population of

Darfur, their livestock, their homes,

their grain stock, have been destroyed

in a matter of minutes. I was not prepared

for the far more sinister scene

that I encountered in a ravine deep in

the Darfur desert. Bodies of young men

were lined up in ditches, eerily preserved

by the 130 degree desert heat.

The story the rebels told us seemed

plausible. The dead were civilians who

had been marched up a hill and executed

by the Arab-led government before

its troops abandoned the area the

previous month. The rebels assert that

there were many, many other such

scenes.’’

The government’s deadly portfolio in

Darfur already includes the wanton

burning and bombing of villages, the

raping of women and girls, and denial

of humanitarian aid. We know this is

government and this is Arab Muslims

against non-Arab Muslims, black Africans.

We realize that it is, plain and simple,

genocide. And so we ask that there

be more than tough talk. There has to

be tough action. The United Nations

Security Council must pass a resolution

that has teeth. It must demand

the immediate disarming of those Muslims

or those Arab Muslims and others

who are fostering this deadly attack on

the black Muslims in Sudan.

The settlement of the previous actions

between the West should not

counter what is going on here in

Darfur. It is important to note that,

though we are visiting camps and refugees,

we must understand that there

are areas that have not yet been

viewed and violence continues. We

must ensure that this resolution calls

for peacekeeping troops, and we must

ensure that the humanitarian aid begins

to flow. We must protect the humanitarian

workers. We must stop the

raping and killing of women, young

men and boys.

We must have these individuals returned

to their villages. They are

frightened and refusing to return because

they believe they will not be provided

for. Hundreds of thousands of

survivors have fallen through the

cracks. Some of them say they are

afraid to travel to government-controlled

camps and unable to make it to

the border. They are running out of

food.

We can imagine 300,000 today; 400,000

tomorrow; 500,000 next month; and a

million in a couple of months.

Mr. Speaker, this is now a crisis beyond

our appreciation, apprehension,

and maybe even recognition. But we do

have a backdrop to compare this to. We

have the deadly silence of Rwanda. The

speechlessness, the wonderment of

what to do.

We can do something now. We look

forward, hopefully, with great hope,

meeting with the administration to

craft out the advocacy before the

United Nations Security Council and

all nations that sit on the Security

Council, that have the privilege of sitting.

None of them will be given a pass

on this vote. They must join with us

who believe in a civilized world to

stamp out the genocide occurring in

Sudan. We must do it now. The resolution

must be passed, and we must stand

up and send in the kind of help to provide

the safety necessary to protect the

people in Sudan.