Mr. Speaker,

I ask unanimous consent to speak

out of order.

Mr. Speaker,

I rise to remind my colleagues that

Dr. King was right when he proclaimed

that the measure of a person is not

where a person stands in times of comfort

and convenience, but, rather,

where a person stands in times of challenge

and controversy.

I have a question for my colleagues,

Mr. Speaker. The question is: Where do

we stand on one of the great challenges

and controversies of our time? Where

do we stand, Mr. Speaker, on the question

of genocide in Darfur? A question

that transcends race because there

really is but one race, and that is the

human race; a question that transcends

gender because what is happening in

Darfur is happening to persons of both

genders. Where do we stand on one of

the great questions, one of the great

controversies of our day?

It has been said that hundreds of

thousands have been killed. Nobody

really knows how many; millions displaced,

but nobody really knows how

many. Where do we stand on this great

challenge and controversy of our time?

I have been to Darfur. I was there in

the month of August. I have seen the

throngs of humanity living in huts

made of straw, living on the ground

and off of the land, persons living

under conditions that we would not

want animals and lower life forms to

live under. I have seen these conditions.

No running water, no electricity,

no sanitation facilities. Where do we

stand on one of the great challenges

and controversies of our time?

I met with the general of the AU

forces. He made it very clear that they

were being outgunned, that they were

being overpowered under certain circumstances,

that they needed help, and

he would welcome the presence of the

U.N. forces. Where do we stand on one

of the great challenges and controversies

of our time?

We met with NGOs. They told us of

how 11-year-old babies had been raped,

and how the government would not

allow an offense report to be filed. File

an incident report, say that it happened,

but don’t give enough details so

that a proper prosecution could take

place. Where do we stand on one of the

great challenges and controversies of

our time?

I met with former rebel leaders who

are now part of the government. They

want the U.N. forces. They understand

that genocide is still taking place in

Darfur. They understand that unless

we have outside intervention, it will

continue. Where do we stand on this

great challenge and controversy of our

time?

A superpower has to have super vision.

Where there is no vision, the people

perish. And when a superpower

doesn’t have super vision, you have

super deaths, super atrocities. Where

do we stand on one of the great challenges

of our time?

Mr. Speaker, Mr. PAYNE, members of

the CBC, Leader PELOSI, we stand with

the people of Darfur, the indigenous

population. We stand for justice, for

the least, the last and the lost. We

stand for making sure that no decent,

self-respecting company does business

with Darfur. Any company that does

business with Darfur commits a sin.

This is one of the great tragedies of our

time. We stand for standing against

those businesses that are allowing this

tragedy to continue, because if you do

business with this country, you are

doing business with those who are perpetrating

genocide.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want you to know

that there are good people in this

House, and we are calling on people of

goodwill to take a stand against one of

the great challenges and controversies

of our time.