Thank you so very much. Let me welcome

Special Envoy. Thank you for your service. Let me thank Mr. Lantos

and the full committee for their dedication and commitment,

and let me elevate and compliment Chairman Payne and his Ranking

Member Smith and his persistence in determination. Might I

recognize another group, the Congressional Black Caucus, now 43

members? Many of us individually and collectively had tried to do

everything possible on this side of the ocean to address this question.

And it is because we are filled with nightmares at night and

regularly are concerned about the images of wounded and imploded

babies and burned villages. And when I walked across the border,

and I guess maybe at some point someone will accost me for that

because there was no other way to get in Sudan after leaving some

of the most beautifully disturbing refugee camps. So I will pose to

you the questions of concern about the refugees in Chad and destabilizing

of that government.

But I do want to just briefly say that we are now 2 years after

the 1556 Resolution in the U.N. Security Council and about 9

months after the Darfur peace agreements and the question is we

have to do more. And I ask this government to do a complete and

total trade and financial sanctions against Darfur. I am interested

in an intense U.N. peacekeeping in some way along with the African

Union soldiers, and I want relief for the refugees in Chad and

some effort to stop the destabilizing situation.

My last point to you, as I thank you for your service, is I am concerned

about Southern Sudan because they are trying. And they

deserve our support and recognition, and there may be some issues

that we have to discuss on how to protect them. And one of them

is protecting their leaders, providing security for their leaders. We

still don’t know the answers to the unfortunate plane incident. I

would like to see this government providing support and security

for their leaders.

I thank you and I look forward to your testimony, and I thank

the chairman and I yield back. We have to do something.

I am comforted by your exuberance, and I

thank you for it. Anyone who is willing to take on the big dig, I

think we have invested in you well.

You had some minimal preparation.

If we leave this hearing with anything, I hope that we leave it

with the fact that we should have done whatever we are doing yesterday,

last week, last month, and there is a heightened sense of

urgency, and I center my remarks around three points. And my

members, my colleagues have already elevated it.

I do want to associate myself with Chairman Payne’s I guess

plea and frustration. I remember his legislation, and I think that

if we had been in front of it with military resources, we might be

looking quite differently.

You know, there is a question that many of us who may have

strong views about the Iraq war, we are considered, as I use the

term, bifurcated in our views, but I think we are using good judgment,

and I certainly think that military force in the way that it

might have been used ahead of time for Sudan might have been

the appropriate approach to take, particularly as I hear what you

are saying. I thought I heard it from my good friend and colleague

Mr. Smith, but let me put this in my questions and engage you.

One, I would like you to give us a singular powerful movement that

this Congress could take, House and Senate, expeditiously, and one

of the problems that I have is that we move too slowly. We, frankly,

move too slowly. And I don’t want to pass on bad legislation,

but we are talking about—you know, I would almost want to put

on armor and leave this hearing and, you know, if it took running

across waters and into Sudan, how ridiculous and barbaric to beat

up on aid workers. It is barbaric, and I think we should say it. And

I think we should charge up chiefs and rebels and others because

I believe the rebels have a cause, but not a cause to beat up and

kill aid workers. Frankly, that is not acceptable. I would like the

administration to make a pronouncement, it is barbaric, period. It

is insufferable. And I appreciate how we intrude on that. Then the

question of the rapes. Are there some, particularly NGOs, we can

send in, and this deals with human trafficking. I was talking with

my colleague, Lynn Woolsey, about this, taking these women, and

whether or not there is a particular source of resources that we can

utilize. One of my concerns with the State Department budget, I

saw the cutting in international peacekeeping troops. I think that

is ridiculous. I don’t think we should cut those funds.

The other point is about Chad, I had spent a lot of time or at

least a reasonable amount of time in the refugee camps in Chad,

about a year or 2 ago, so I know that it is even worse now, and

I am concerned about the destabilizing. Can the U.N. be of help

there and particularly in the feeding of those refugees? And lastly,

if we can engage on this problem of China. And I think it is important

we use vernacular in the neighborhood calling someone out. I

think the United States is to call China out, and one of the things

that we are frightened about in terms of China and I supported the

PNTR sanctions against China. And we are afraid of that. I don’t

know what our problem is. We are afraid of it. So I would appreciate

your comment, and you might comment—I think I said in my

earlier statement about full sanctions against Sudan, and I know

that there is a plan B and I know that you have had some discussion

with that, but I would appreciate you engaging me on those

points.

Can any of that money be used to protect the

women and children in particular from rape?

Do we need Chinese sanctions?

I won’t ask you for that. I will end by simply

saying, more action against China to do what is right.

Good.

I encourage you to do that. Thank you.