New fighting in the Darfur region of

Sudan has opened a new chapter of tragedy

in Sudan’s troubled history. The Sudanese

Government must immediately stop local militias

from committing atrocities against the

local population and must provide unrestricted

access to humanitarian aid agencies.

I condemn these atrocities, which are displacing

hundreds of thousands of civilians,

and I have expressed my views directly to

President Bashir of Sudan.

For more than 21⁄2 years, the United States

has been working closely with the Government

of Sudan and the Sudanese People’s

Liberation Movement (SPLM) to bring

peace to Sudan. This civil war is one of the

worst humanitarian tragedies of our time, responsible

for the deaths of two million people

over two decades. Achieving peace and

reaching a just and comprehensive agreement

must be an urgent priority for both

sides.

The United States will move toward normal

relations with the Government of Sudan

only when there is a just and comprehensive

peace agreement between the Government

and the SPLM. All parties must also ensure

that there is unrestricted access for humanitarian

relief throughout Sudan, including

Darfur, and the Government of Sudan must

cooperate fully in the war against terrorism.

I continue to hope for peace for the people

of Sudan and for normalization of relations

between Sudan and the United States. However,

the Government of Sudan must not remain

complicit in the brutalization of Darfur.

I renew my call to Khartoum to bring the

peace process with the SPLM to a just conclusion

and to bring peace and justice to

Darfur.