I send my greetings to those participating

in events around the world protesting the situation

in Darfur. It is only fitting that we

take the time today to remember the value

of every human life and the right of every

person in the world to live in peace with dignity

and respect.

Our Nation is appalled by the genocide

in Darfur, which has led to the spread of

fighting and hostility in the Republic of Chad

and the Central African Republic. We call

on the Government of the Republic of Sudan

and the rebel groups to cease fighting and

pursue peace.

We continue to work on establishing a

credible and effective peacekeeping force to

stop the violence in Darfur. To this end, we

are aggressively engaging all stakeholders to

implement U.N. Resolution 1706 to transition

the African Union Mission in Sudan to

a strong international peacekeeping operation.

We are urgently seeking to broaden

support for the Darfur Peace Agreement and

pressuring all sides to implement an immediate

cease-fire. We will continue to work

with the Congress, the United Nations, the

African Union, and the international community

to provide aid to those who are suffering.

The United States is committed to achieving

stability, lasting peace, and the restoration of

basic human rights for the people of Darfur.