General Gration, thank you for your service

and for your testimony today. This has been a passion of yours for

some time.

Sudan has also been a passion of Congressman Frank Wolf of

Virginia. In a letter to the President, dated May 5, 2010, Representative

Wolf mentions his two decades of involvement in this

country. He offers his opinion that hope is quickly fading in the

process. He references an advertisement, placed in the Washington

Post and in the publication Politico by six respected NGOs, calling

for Secretary Clinton and Ambassador Rice to exercise personal

and sustained leadership on Sudan in the face of what they call ‘‘a

stalemated policy.’’ And Mr. Wolf joins what he calls ‘‘a chorus of

voices’’ urging that the President empower Secretary Clinton and

Ambassador Rice to take control of the languishing Sudan policy.

Mr. Chairman, I ask that this letter be included in the record at

this point.

Thank you very much.

General Gration, the elections are supposed to

take place in January—early January. There’s talk of December.

This is the middle of May. You’ve testified that we’re behind. We

don’t yet know what the boundaries of these jurisdictions will be.

As far as I can tell, we don’t know what the boundaries of Abyei,

the subdistrict, will be. We don’t know who will be eligible to vote,

even, in these elections. Why are we behind?

Is this going to require agreement by Khartoum?

They must agree on the boundary.

OK. So, we’re behind, in that respect, because

we didn’t get going on looking at those historical boundaries that

were agreed to, back in 2005?

Your testimony today was that we must have

a clear boundary decided by November. Is that date part of the

CPA?

That seems to be a very late date, to me. Does

it bother you that, possibly before a December vote, we would still

have unresolved the issue of the boundary?

But, you anticipate it will be November before

we can do that.

General, Mr. Kiir—Salva Kiir—was elected by

the people of the South, with 93 percent of the vote. He has stated

the upcoming referendum is a choice between being second class in

your own country or being a free person in an independent state.

Is there any question in your mind that he supports secession?

Indeed. Now, he got 93 percent of the vote. How

close are the boundaries of the electorate that chose him and the

boundaries that you expect to be agreed upon before this referendum

can take place?

He was elected within a jurisdiction that obviously

had boundaries. How different will the demarcation be of

that area and the area that will vote in the referendum?

Well—thank you—would it help your job, General,

if the Secretary of State and Ambassador Rice stepped forward

and took a more visible, active role in this so as to heighten

the level of importance that our American Government places on

this issue? Would that be beneficial to you, if they stepped forward

and became more visible?

Well, Mr. Chairman, my round is over. If

there’s a moment or two, I may jump back in for a second.

Well, OK.

OK, sure. Then I’ll take a second round, if you

have a moment.

OK, yes.

General, the laws must be changed by the National Assembly

before the vote can take place. Well, when do you anticipate that

action by the national legislature will take place?

But, those other two actions must take place in

order for the process to go forward. When do you anticipate that

that will be done?

First of June. OK. Well, thank you. Have you

had discussions with Russia about coming in and taking a major

partnership role with the United States in making sure this is a

peaceful and amicable divorce?

OK. And one other thing, Mr. Chairman.

I’m concerned about the testimony that Khartoum might be better

disposed to all of this if somehow their government were less

of an international pariah. Am I characterizing your words correctly,

General Gration?

Well, I’d simply point out, Mr. Chairman, that

the facts are what they are, and the President of Sudan is internationally

indicted, and that can’t be ignored. And when that happens,

it does have an effect on your international reputation.

I appreciate the Chair indulging me.

Let me say in conclusion, Mr. Chairman, this has been helpful.

It had to be abbreviated, because of the room. I would hope, soon,

this committee or perhaps a subcommittee could convene another

hearing on this issue.

Chair mentioned the importance of continuing to highlight the

significance of this issue. I would hope that that a representative

of one of these NGOs that sees it differently than General Gration

could be brought to testify. I would hope that——

Roger Winter——

Might be invited also.

When will that be, Mr. Chairman?

Thank you. I’m heartened to hear that.

And I appreciate the Chair indulging me.