About a month ago, I had an opportunity to

meet with United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and talk

with him at length about Darfur. He claims that the situation

there is on his mind early in the morning and late at night. I would

like your assessment of his commitment to taking action to resolve

the problems in Darfur and his determination to implement Resolution

1706. You have mentioned that he has discouraged adopting

a new U.N. Security Council resolution on Darfur. I would like

your honest appraisal of his commitment to action and how much

support he may or may not be getting from other members of the

United Nations.

May I ask you, What does that mean——

‘‘A chance’’?

Well, it’s comforting to know that U.N. members

are substantively working on progress in Darfur, because

there are so many of us that have wondered just how conscientious

the United Nations really was about this issue. And it’s comforting

to know that the Chinese, who have always been held out as the

obstructionists, now seem to be onboard to use their influence to

be successful there.

When you met with the Secretary General, did he raise the issue

about the peacekeeping funds in the budget? We’re asking the

United Nations to do all kinds of things in the area of peacekeeping,

but the fact of the matter is that the budget that we have

provided, Mr. Chairman, is inadequate. We are not providing the

money that we need for peacekeeping, our dues and our arrears.

And this organization, which is really carrying a lot of water for

the United States in so many areas, needs the support of this administration

and of Congress. And I wonder if he raised that issue

with you.