Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ambassador, I appreciate your work, but I must tell you, it

seems to me that we are being waltzed by—while people die. And

the reality is, looking at this latest report, the United Nations Refugee

Agency said that militiamen had killed up to 400 people in

the volatile eastern border region near Sudan, leaving, ‘‘an apocalyptic

scene of mass graves and destruction.’’ The attacks by the

Janjaweed took place in that border area. And it goes on to say

‘‘Estimates of the number of dead have increased substantially, and

now range between 2 and 400,’’ a report by the U.N. High Commissioner

for Refugees said. The report added that many of the dead

were buried in common graves, and it says, ‘‘We may never know

their exact number. The attackers encircled the villages, opened

fire, pursuing fleeing villagers, robbing women, shooting the men.’’

The agency said, ‘‘Many who survived the attack died from exhaustion

and dehydration.’’

You know, I want to ask you a question. Do you still stand by

what you were quoted in the Georgetown Voice, saying that the ongoing

crisis in Darfur is no longer a genocide situation?

So——

So, would you now tell the committee: What

is the situation in Darfur? Is it a——

Genocide?

That does——

Not mean that we do not——

Have an ongoing——

Circumstance——

Of genocide. The question is: Do

you——

Consider——

Answer my question.

I have a limited——

Amount of time——

Ambassador.

So, I ask you to be specific and answer my

question.

You can’t answer it if you haven’t heard it.

Do you consider the ongoing situation in Darfur genocide?

Yes or no?

Yes or no?

I didn’t——

I didn’t——

I didn’t refer to that.

I’m asking you——

Yes or no——

Ambassador——

What is the difficulty——

In my question?

Give me an honest——

Answer.

Is the circumstances in Darfur today a continuing

genocide; yes or no?

Ambassador——

Ambassador——

Ambassador, I’m not asking whether diminished

fighting, I’m asking whether the situation in Darfur today is

a genocide; yes or no?

Yes or no?

All right.

You know, in the——

In the present——

In the present convention that

the United Nations has on the prevention and punishment of the

crime of genocide, it says ‘‘genocide’’ means ‘‘any of the following

acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a

national ethnic, racial, or religious group, such as killing members

of the group, causing seriously bodily or mental harm to members

of the group; deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life

calculated to bring about its physical destruction, in whole or in

part; imposing measures intended to prevent births within the

group; and false—and forcibly transferring the children of the

group to another group.’’ It seems to me that those clearly are elements

of what is taking place——

In Darfur. Let me ask you—because

you don’t want to answer the question yes or no, so let——

Go on——

Let me go on to the following question. What

are we willing to accept from the Secretary General? Anything less

than the agreements that we have had to date that we expect to

be enforced? Do we expect——

Anything less than that?

Ambassador, I appreciate your——

Your lengthy——

Anecdotal——

Responses, but please just answer

my question.

The question——

Is: What are we willing to accept

from the Secretary General’s negotiations? Is it anything less

than the agreements that we previously thought we had?

OK.

Are we ready to implement plan B if the

Secretary General fails? Yes or no?

I——

I understand all that. The question is——

If the Secretary General fails in

his efforts—I hope——

He succeeds——

Are we ready——

To go to plan B?

And then, are we ready to immediately move

to plan B, and implement it——

In that case?

Once it’s signed.

Well, my point is: Are we at the point where,

if the Secretary General fails, the administration is ready to move

forward?

Well, I think part of our problem is, is that

we are quickly losing credibility in this process with Mr. al-Bashir

and others. It’s like a child when you’re continuously telling him,

‘‘Don’t do that. Don’t do that.’’ I mean, you use your public opportunities

to say, ‘‘Don’t do that. Don’t do that.’’ And they continue to

do it, and they continue to do it, and you say, ‘‘Don’t do that,’’ guess

what? That child never believes that, in fact, you are going to

exact——

A punishment.

And so, ultimately it seems to me we’re at

that point. Let me just say—I’ve got the corrected Georgetown

version here. And you are quoted, in the corrected version, in saying

‘‘the term ‘genocide’ is counter to the facts of what is really

occurring——

‘‘in Darfur.’’

That’s the corrected version.

Well, I hope that——

This administration——

Views what is happening——

In Darfur as genocide——

I hope——

The words ‘‘never again’’ are

meaningful, and those words can only be meaningful if we act. And

I hope that we will not permit this to continue to happen on our

watch. I hope you take that back to the administration. It is time

to get past the talk about plan B, and it is time to begin to enforce

plan B.

Mr. Chairman, I know my time is over, but

I just——

I listened to you carefully. A hundred and

one days ago, you, on behalf of the administration, announced plan

B. Now, 2 to 3 weeks more. What does it matter if it takes a little

time? If I was sitting in those camps, I could not stand the counsels

of patience and delay. And I hope we get to the point that we understand

that. I understand about multilateral action. But, at some

point in time, we must lead.

And it seems to me that we have not gotten

to the point where we are truly leading. And I hope that the administration

will do that sooner rather than later, because people

are dying. That’s the reality.