Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And, Secretary

Powell, thanks for being here. Mr. Chairman, at the outset, I’d like

to have the trip report 1 that Frank Wolf and I have filed included

in the record, if it could be.

Thank you.

Mr. Secretary, thank you, God bless you. We really appreciate

you stepping up on a tough issue, like you always do, and taking

a very careful consideration, setting the factual basis for it, making

a determination, and then articulating it very clearly. And I think

this is very important. Words don’t always capture the day. The

words are important. And this word, the word on genocide, is very

important and will have ramifications—I believe, significant ramifications—

around the world and in the government in Khartoum.

So I really appreciate what you’re doing, and the care with which

you do it, as well, I think, is very important.

I want to ask you—you’ve had a good discussion here, it seems

like to me, on a number of tools that are available in your tool

chest. Because I know when you consider an issue, administration

considers an issue, when they take a stance, then you’ve got to figure

out, OK, how are we going to get this done? It’s not just that

you issue the word, and, OK, we’ve said it, that’s good enough. It’s

then, all right, how do we follow on through it? You’re going to the

U.N. now for a resolution, starting a process there for them to review

the genocide. And if they make the genocide determination,

as I understand it, then a series of issues and actions, required actions,

kick in, where—which is—I think, were appropriate.

And, by the way—and this is a sidebar—I think this is an enormously

important time for the world, where we are stepping up

while a genocide is occurring, and calling it as such, to protect the

people there. Your own State Department has said, we’ve got—

30,000 to 50,000 people have died, but the likelihood of 300,000 is

clearly there, given the situation. But we’re trying to stop this before

it gets to 300,000. And I think this is a great time for the

world to say, we’re going to step into these things before all the

people die that are there.

As you look at the tools in your chest—you’ve described several

of them already—but are there other leverage points that you can

use, tools to get some of this forward? Will there be discussion on

the sanctions, particularly oil, because that’s the major issue for

the Sudanese, that, OK, we will do this, and the U.N. will do this,

and push this, unless Khartoum allows the international troops in?

Because somehow we’ve got to get the security situation—you’ve

identified it as a security humanitarian crisis—totally security driven

humanitarian crisis. It is. Can we use that, that tool, that

threat of a sanction—but it’s got to be a very real threat—to get

the troops in on the ground? Can we personally, as the U.S., leverage

more toward China, where they’re the principal conduit

through which the oil comes out of the country—not the only one,

but the principal one; their companies, their market—can we leverage

more our pressure on China to step up on Khartoum to get the

international troops in?

And Egypt, which I’m—I appreciate some of the words that

they’ve said, but this is not enough, given the humanitarian crisis.

And it is right there on their border, and it is right there on their

door, and their relations with Khartoum are probably some of the

better in the world. And they’re a big ally of ours, and we work

closely with the Egyptians. I think they are woefully, woefully inadequate

in their actions, and even in their words, to date, that

they have issued. Is there more in our tool chest that we can do

toward the Egyptians to get the troops, the international troops,

moved in to deal with the security situation?

And Arab League leadership, you

mentioned——

As well. Do you see other tools

available to you that have not been discussed today to try to get

those troops in on the ground in that western——

We all were.

Got it done.

I want to thank you and really praise your

work and the President’s work and Jack Danforth’s work. We’ve

been around the Sudan issue quite awhile. Senator Frist, as have

a number of people on the dais, Senator Corzine, Senator Feingold,

and Senator Alexander. I mean, there’s a real chorus of people. But

you guys are the first ones to really lean in and put action to your

words. You’ve learned in, and you’ve fought for the peace agreement

between North and South, got it done. We passed the Sudan Peace

Act. You’re using some of the tools available to that. And there are

carrots and sticks with it. And there are a lot of carrots that are

here. And then I was, as well, with you, hopeful we were going to

finally resolve this longest-running civil war this past year, and

then this has stepped up.

I do, in conclusion, want to hope and urge that we will support,

financially, the African Union effort, but also the Europeans, particularly,

will step up with this. They should. They are in a position

to do so, should get that done.

And, finally, Mr. Chairman, I’d like to recognize, particularly,

one writer that traveled with us, Emily Wax, with the Washington

Post, doing extraordinary work. I think she should get a Pulitzer

Prize for the work that she’s done, because a lot of this has been

moved forward because the press has really focused in, and people

have put some of their lives on the line to really cover this story

in its graphic depth. And it is a horrific story. It is a very troubling

story. But they’ve been there, and I really hope they keep reporting

and shining the light on it.

Thanks, Mr. Secretary.

Today Secretary Powell and the State Department reaffirmed the conclusion of

the U.S. Congress that genocide is taking place in Sudan. It is now clear that the

Bush administration and Congress officially recognize the situation in Sudan for

what it is: the killing of tens of thousands of innocent people, simply because of

their race. President Bush’s personal leadership on this issue began with the naming

of Jack Danforth as a Special Envoy to the Sudan in 2001.

I applaud and thank Secretary Powell for taking such a strong and principled

step. The United States cannot and should not resolve this crisis alone. The international

community must step up. Given the overwhelming facts regarding the

Khartoum regime, how long can the international community continue to turn a

blind eye and say that they see no evil? How many more people will have to die

before the international community takes action as soon as possible beyond just setting

another deadline for better behavior?

I visited the Darfur region of Sudan in late June and issued a report with recommendations

for the international community to deal with the dire human rights

situation there. Arab militias, known as the Janjaweed, and government forces continue

their violent campaign against Darfur’s Black African population. Reports indicate

that some 200,000 refugees have fled to Chad, and over 1 million have been

displaced inside the region. Some reports estimate that the final death toll could

reach 1 million if humanitarian organizations are unable to deliver aid. I, along

with Rep. Frank Wolf, personally visited five refugee villages and saw hundreds of

burned-out homes.

I introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution 99 along with Senator Jon Corzine,

which formally declared genocide in Sudan. The Senate passed the resolution in

July. The House of Representatives passed similar legislation cosponsored by Rep.

Donald Payne and Rep. Thomas Tancredo. I also introduced legislation, along with

Senator Mike DeWine and Majority Leader Bill Frist, providing $95 million in emergency

humanitarian aid to the Darfur region of the Sudan.