

forget? Why? Because just a few short years ago we are reminded of the million-plus that died in Rwanda while the world simply watched. So many of us have said, "Not on my clock."

With every fabric of our bodies, we are refusing to allow the murderous act of the Janjaweed in Sudan and the Khartoum government to continue without impunity. People are dying, and we must cease and have them cease and desist.

Allow me to share some of the words of John Prendergast, who was formerly with African affairs in the Clinton administration and now with the International Crisis Group. He had a unique experience. Making note of the fact that many Members of Congress have gone to Sudan, others will be going. Secretary of State Powell has gone. Secretary General Kofi Annan has gone, but they along with others have been in areas controlled by the government. Mr. Prendergast was able to cross over to areas not controlled by the government, and this is what he saw.

He said, "Indeed, I saw numbing evidence of such a campaign in this Muslim region of Sudan which is populated by Arabs and non-Arabs. Burned villages confirmed harrowing stories we heard from Darfurians who were lucky enough to make it to the refugee camps in Chad. About 1.5 million people have been left homeless and as many as 300,000 may be dead by year's end. In village after village that I visited, the painstakingly accumulated wealth of the non-Arab population of Darfur, their livestock, their homes, their grain stock, have been destroyed in a matter of minutes. I was not prepared for the far more sinister scene that I encountered in a ravine deep in the Darfur desert. Bodies of young men were lined up in ditches, eerily preserved by the 130 degree desert heat. The story the rebels told us seemed plausible. The dead were civilians who had been marched up a hill and executed by the Arab-led government before its troops abandoned the area the previous month. The rebels assert that there were many, many other such scenes."

The government's deadly portfolio in Darfur already includes the wanton burning and bombing of villages, the raping of women and girls, and denial of humanitarian aid. We know this is government and this is Arab Muslims against non-Arab Muslims, black Africans.

We realize that it is, plain and simple, genocide. And so we ask that there be more than tough talk. There has to be tough action. The United Nations Security Council must pass a resolution that has teeth. It must demand the immediate disarming of those Muslims or those Arab Muslims and others who are fostering this deadly attack on the black Muslims in Sudan.

The settlement of the previous actions between the West should not counter what is going on here in

Darfur. It is important to note that, though we are visiting camps and refugees, we must understand that there are areas that have not yet been viewed and violence continues. We must ensure that this resolution calls for peacekeeping troops, and we must ensure that the humanitarian aid begins to flow. We must protect the humanitarian workers. We must stop the raping and killing of women, young men and boys.

We must have these individuals returned to their villages. They are frightened and refusing to return because they believe they will not be provided for. Hundreds of thousands of survivors have fallen through the cracks. Some of them say they are afraid to travel to government-controlled camps and unable to make it to the border. They are running out of food.

We can imagine 300,000 today; 400,000 tomorrow; 500,000 next month; and a million in a couple of months.

Mr. Speaker, this is now a crisis beyond our appreciation, apprehension, and maybe even recognition. But we do have a backdrop to compare this to. We have the deadly silence of Rwanda. The speechlessness, the wonderment of what to do.

We can do something now. We look forward, hopefully, with great hope, meeting with the administration to craft out the advocacy before the United Nations Security Council and all nations that sit on the Security Council, that have the privilege of sitting. None of them will be given a pass on this vote. They must join with us who believe in a civilized world to stamp out the genocide occurring in Sudan. We must do it now. The resolution must be passed, and we must stand up and send in the kind of help to provide the safety necessary to protect the people in Sudan.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KING of Iowa). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFazio) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFazio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BLUMENAUER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

30-SOMETHING DEMOCRATS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) is recognized for half the time until midnight as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I will not quite take our whole half hour. It has been a very long week; and we know everyone wants to get home here, especially the staff, so we will be brief.

There are a couple of issues that I want to touch upon this evening as we have wrapped up legislative business for the week. This is our normal 30-Something hour where the gentleman from Florida and I and Members of the 30-Something Caucus on the Democratic side will talk about issues. Unfortunately, I am flying solo tonight, and I am missing my wing man from Florida who is not here with me. But I am going to persevere.

There are a couple of issues that I would just like to touch upon here in the next couple of minutes. One of the issues that we have been talking about over the past few weeks and almost a few months now is the issue of voter suppression for college students. This is a major issue throughout the country, regardless of what State you live in, regarding voter suppression for these college students. And in a lot of counties, the boards of elections and the people who work at the boards of elections will tell college students that they cannot vote where they live if they are away at school. They are saying that is not a permanent residence.

The Supreme Court established in 1979 under Federal law that students who reside in dorms are allowed to vote where they live. And there have been thousands of students throughout the country who have been denied their franchise because the local boards of election said that they cannot vote there by saying that they are not permanent residents. But both Federal and State courts have clearly established that students have the right to vote where they go to school, even if they live in a dorm.

So a lot of workers would say, well, you live in a dorm. Well, you cannot vote here; or you live out of State, you cannot vote here and you are not allowed. A lot of this has to do with the local politics. But the bottom line is that if you are away at school, whether it is in your State or outside of your State, you can register to vote where you go to school. And that is very important.

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK) and I are working on this with Rock the Vote, with the different Secretary of States organizations, and this

is something that should be a bipartisan issue. This is not a Democratic issue. It is not a Republican issue.

We hear a lot of complaints about why young people will not engage in the political process; but if we as legislators are not taking issue with the fact that a lot of these young students are denied their right to vote, we cannot expect them to vote. We cannot expect them to want to participate in this system.

I want to share just a couple of stories here tonight: one from Texas, one from Arkansas, and I think the last one is from Maine regarding this issue. Also in Florida. Let me share one from Texas.

□ 2310

Prairie View A&M, a predominantly black university in a white county. The local district attorney threatened to prosecute students for fraud if they voted. So the local DA is telling these students that they cannot vote and threatening them with charges of fraud.

The students organized a march on Martin Luther King Day, sued the district attorney for voter intimidation. The Secretary of State issued a statement upholding the students' right to vote, and now the students are fighting to get a polling place on campus and to have early voting. The battle continues. That was in the *Houston Chronicle* on January 23 of this year.

Same kind of situation in Arkansas. Students with the support of the ACLU filed an injunction that would protect their right to register their college residency, and they won the appeal. Same situation at Florida A&M, and also the same situation in Maine.

So what we want to do tonight is just let these students know across the country, contact your Secretary of State's office. Demand that they issue you a copy of this Supreme Court decision. Tell them to contact the local board of elections. Contact the board of elections where your school is now so that they have time to get the information. We cannot wait until the last few days when you cannot even register to vote and the local board of election is still denying you your right to vote.

So this is major issue. I want to share with the people at home, give us an e-mail, 30somethingdems@mail.house.gov. Send us an e-mail.

Unfortunately, we are getting stories left and right about the voter suppression, and it is something we really need to talk about and keep touching upon, but also, contact your State Secretary of State who is handling the elections because this is an issue that I think we need to engage, not only as young people but as people who are citizens of the United States of America because it is such an important issue.

I think it is an important issue for a variety of reasons. One is obviously the constitutional issue and the protection

of each citizen's franchise, but another issue I think is this.

We are in a time of dramatic change in our country, and we are creating a new system. We are creating a new economic system. In many ways, we are creating a new political system and the way it should be run. Young people are vital to this process of creating a new economy, and we have talked here for many, many weeks about the importance of education, the importance of funding education, the importance of funding the Pell grants, the importance of making sure that students have access to student loans, the \$25 billion that the Democratic proposal says we want to give to the States to reduce tuition costs across the country. That is vital and those programs are vital because we need to educate these kids and let them go out and create the new economy.

So, again, it is the 30somethingdems@mail.house.gov. Send us an e-mail if you have any issues regarding voter suppression at your campus. Write your local Secretary of State.

Again, this is a bipartisan issue. This is not an issue that we want to be partisan, Democrat or Republican. This is an issue about protecting, because quite frankly there are universities out there that are Republican universities, and those students should have the right there as well.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, if it is a bipartisan issue, I would point out to the gentleman, since he referenced the Texas case, for those students who wish to vote in their college town, it is going to be necessary to change their legal residence to their college dormitory. It is done all the time. You can live in a college dorm, you can live in a tent, you can live in a van by the river, but you do need to change your legal residence. Many people elect not to do that because their residence changes frequently during their college years and they stay at their parents' residence. If they do that and their parents live in Houston and they live at Prairie View, they are not going to be able to vote in that town, but if you change your legal residence in Texas 30 days before the election, you can vote, no problem. Thank you.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman. He is absolutely right; you are allowed by law to vote. The problem is you get, in this case, a local district attorney, or in many, many instances that we have, you have people who work at the board of elections who just say, no, you are not allowed because they just do not understand the ruling.

So we are trying to get, and I hope the gentleman will help me, we are trying to get people to contact the Secretary of State offices all around the country and let them send a copy of

this 1979 Supreme Court decision to the local boards and allow them to just have the knowledge, just have the information because the Supreme Court has already ruled. I agree, if you are not willing to live and make it a residency, maybe that is another issue, but these are kids who have established permanent residency at the college campus and have been denied their franchise.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman yield, let us not make the process more complicated than it need be. We do not need to involve the Secretary of State. They simply need to change their residence.

At the University of North Texas in my district in Denton, Texas, the NAACP organized a voter drive, and it was called "Sleep Here, Vote Here." They received an award from the NAACP for their efforts. They have had no problem instituting it.

The difficulty comes if you have not changed your residence 30 days before the election. People do not realize that, and then they feel they are unfairly disenfranchised.

Again, to go to the Secretary of State to do a simple change of address is unnecessarily complicating the process, and I am afraid the gentleman will drive more people out of the process by making them call Austin or whatever the capital of Ohio is, I do not even know, but making them call the State capital to talk to the Secretary of State.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Reclaiming my time, Columbus is the capital of the State of Ohio, and the point I want to make, and the gentleman reiterated the point, absolutely, if you are not a permanent resident, that is one thing. But we have kids, students around the country who want to be registered as permanent residents, they want to vote at the college campus, and the local DA is saying we are going to charge you with fraud or you are not a permanent resident.

So we are saying, given those facts, you should be able to register at that college campus and vote at that college campus, and all we want to do is not complicate the process. We want the Secretary of States to issue the 1979 Supreme Court ruling to the local boards so that they know firsthand that if a college kid comes in and establishes permanent residency that they would be able to vote.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank the distinguished gentleman from the great State of Ohio for coming forward, along with his caucus, for a very excellent presentation.

Let me just quickly say, you could not be more right, and this could not be a more vital and timely effort on behalf of college students around the Nation.

I am going to put on a lawyer's hat just for a little bit. That case came out of Prairie View A&M, Prairie View, Texas, and believe it or not, just a few short months ago, we had to march with 7,000 students and community leaders to make the very point again, because the students in Prairie View, Texas, were being denied the right to vote by the district attorney of that county.

We had to then solicit the assistance of the Secretary of State, the Department of Justice, and the governor of the State of Texas to pronounce the rights of those students, and thereby, the rights of students in Denton, Texas, and those in Corpus and those in San Antonio, maybe in Columbus, Ohio; New York City, to have the right to vote, register to vote in your place of residence.

I do not like the term "permanent residence," and the reason why I do not like that is because it suggests an onerous burden that is not true. If you declare that you are a resident of that community, for that framework, that you are not voting in another location, meaning that you have left the residency of your parents or wherever you live and you have taken up residence, because the distinguished gentleman, someone may move from where they graduate from school and become a resident of New York, but as long as they are not voting in New York and Texas then they have taken up residency in New York.

□ 2320

And they have the right to vote.

This is an election year of the greatest moment, if you will. And that means that we are trying to encourage our young people to participate in the democratic process of elections. And what happened in Prairie View, Texas, in this year on the date of the birthday of Martin Luther King, which was the date of that particular decision, January 15, 1979, was the reason we had to march again January 15, 2004, to declare the rights of those young people to be able to vote.

So I think that the gentleman's plea today, the gentleman's request today is paramount. And all of the Secretaries of State, and it may be the Secretary of State in one State, it may be the Attorney General or it may be the Governor. But what the gentleman is suggesting is that there has to be the pronouncement that if you have taken up residence, if you have an address, if you have left the residency of your past location, family, etc., if you are not voting in two places, which none of us are arguing for. Then you have the right to vote.

Mr. Speaker, I will close on this. Intimidation is real. It has occurred. I am a living witness to listening to students who were intimidated from not only voting but even registering. There is a suggestion that in towns where you might think there is conflict between town and gown that this creates an agi-

tation. I believe if we create an atmosphere that eliminates intimidation, we will find that our students on college campuses will be the best community citizens in various parts of communities that we could ever find.

These are young people who are vital, they are vibrant, and they simply want to participate. Many of them are volunteers, many of them participate in helping in humanitarian efforts in the community. They are good community citizens.

I would simply argue that the gentleman has an excellent point that is being made, and I want to thank the gentleman on behalf of the students of Prairie View A&M, because the gentleman is using them symbolically for the troubles we had in Texas that we had to fix, not by a simple request. And since many of us were physically meeting with that district attorney, it was not just a simple request.

We thanked that district attorney's office for conceding getting an opinion from the Attorney General and from the Secretary of State and from the Governor of the State of Texas. Because I can assure my colleague that no one would want to have every single college town have to have a march of 7,000 people to get their votes.

So I hope what the gentleman has offered today will be heard by many of our colleagues, and that we will check on our college campuses, check on our students and ensure that our election officials are very much aware of this very worthy decision and the gentleman's great leadership on this issue.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for sharing her personal experience with us. It was obviously just something that had to be done.

Let me share so there is no confusion here. The case we were just talking about, the local district attorney threatened to prosecute students for fraud if they voted. I already mentioned this school in Arkansas.

At Florida A&M, during the 2000 general election, 5,000 students were turned away from polling locations at the Historically Black University. Students have also reported receiving two voter registration cards with different polling locations. Others were turned away and told to vote at off-campus polling sites, while more students were informed that they had never been registered.

In Maine, the same kind of situation. The town registrar of Brunswick, Maine, turned students away from the polls by using misleading questions regarding residency. Students were informed if they registered in the county of their college or university, now listen to this, that they would risk losing financial aid, health care, driver's license and/or car registration. The students began campaigning and eventually protested. They gained national media coverage, defeated the legislation with a unanimous vote because they tried to manipulate the legislative process there.

So this is really happening. It is happening in Maine, Arkansas, Texas; and it is probably happening all over the country. Send us an e-mail, let us know, contact your local Secretary of State or whoever in your State is in charge of the voting. This is a very important issue.

We are not saying we want anybody to be able, as the gentlewoman from Texas said, to be able to vote in a couple of different places; but these are students. They have the right to vote. They qualify and they should be able to participate in the political process.

So that wraps it up for the 30-Something 20 minutes this week, Mr. Speaker.

FLIPFLOPS ON IRAQ AND AL QAEDA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KING of Iowa). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) is recognized for the remaining time until midnight as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I would assume that is eastern time midnight and not time in my district midnight. We could always hope, but I will make the assumption that is eastern time.

Mr. Speaker, before I start into the text of my discussion tonight, I would like to commend the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) for her comment that the U.N. Security Council must pass a resolution that has teeth. That was exactly the position many of the Members on this side of the aisle felt like 1441 should have been, a resolution that had teeth in it. But, actually, it turned out not to be, and that is unfortunate. But her point is well made that the Security Council lacks the ability to enforce things that should be enforced.

Mr. Speaker, I am joined tonight by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER), and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP). We want to talk about Iraq and al Qaeda.

It is one thing when politicians flipflop, and we have an example now. One of the Presidential candidates, Senator KERRY, has shown a willingness to flipflop and play both sides of an issue. But it is especially reprehensible when our media begins to flipflop. As we discuss this issue tonight on Iraq and al Qaeda, we are going to show instances where the media, in 1999, 2000, and beyond, were perfectly content, under the Clinton administration, to acknowledge the ties between al Qaeda and Iraq. Yet under President Bush, they have decided that they will disaffirm that; that instead of the truth, their agenda is more important. They have elected to now say that there is no connection, when the facts clearly show that there has been a strong connection between al Qaeda and Iraq.

In reviewing this, I am reminded of the New York Times scandal where the