

of the mothers in the Darfur region, Sudanese mothers and their children with matchstick legs, covered with flies, dying, starving right before our eyes, we have to ask, are we doing what we should? Is the United States doing what it should?

We have to take steps, and we have to take them now, to stop this mass slaughter. We start by calling it what it is—genocide—and by labeling it a genocide. It calls all who signed the treaty to action to prevent genocide, not just to care but to do something. The United States and the United Nations must both label this for what it is. Secretary of State Powell has stated that Sudan is “moving toward a genocidal conclusion.” That is short of calling it a genocide, but I give the Secretary of State credit. In many times gone by, when a genocide was occurring, we could not even bring ourselves at the official level to acknowledge it. Secretary of State Powell is doing that, and I salute him for it. Sudan has reached the stage of genocide, but that genocide has not reached its final conclusion. There is still time to save the lives of hundreds of thousands.

On Friday of this week, many of us will leave this Chamber. We will be off to political conventions, campaigns, time with our families, vacations. The first part of September, we will return. Six weeks from now, 45 days from now, we will be back, but during that 45-day period of time, 40,000 or 50,000 innocent people will die in the Sudan. There is no vacation from genocide. There is certainly no vacation from the Sudan. I try to imagine, as I stand here with all the comforts of being a U.S. Senator in this great country, what it must be like to be a mother or a father in that country now watching your children starve to death, fearing systematic rape, torture, and killing, which have become so routine.

We have to do something. We have to do it now. Congress should move to pass resolutions to let the world know we are prepared to move forward. Senator BROWNBACK, a Republican from Kansas, and Senator CORZINE, a Democrat from New Jersey, are pushing forward a resolution that we should not leave this city for any length until it is enacted. But we need not just words. We need to continue to send assistance, as we have, and we deserve credit as a nation for caring and reaching out, but we need to do more—food, water, medicine, but also security for foreign aid workers to get in and to allow the Sudanese refugees to return home.

The United Nations Security Council has failed as well. It has been stymied by several nations which don't want to hold the Sudanese Government responsible for what is happening. We need to move immediately. I know our new U.N. ambassador, Jack Danforth, a man whom I greatly respect, a man of conscience, understands this, as we do. He needs to push those members of the Security Council to get the United Nations to act on Darfur and the Sudan

immediately. We need to intervene. We need to see whether, in the 21st century, international institutions such as the United Nations can succeed where others have failed.

The United States also has rich intelligence resources and capabilities that track militia activity. We have 1,800 troops on Djibouti who could join an international humanitarian mission. Ultimately, it is the African Union that must supply the personnel to enforce security, but we can help.

President Bush—and I disagree with him on so many things, but I have to give him credit where it is due—helped in Liberia with a handful of marines prepared to act. They brought stability to a situation that seemed out of control. We need that same leadership again from this White House, from this Department of Defense, from the State Department, and from this Congress.

Security is a prerequisite in this country of Sudan for helicopter and truck transport which is going to carry supplies to those who are literally starving to death. The Sudanese Government has to rein in these militias. It cannot continue to look the other way. It recently allowed some relief supplies to be offloaded, but the Government has helped unleash the genocide in the Sudan, helped arm and direct the Janjaweed. They cannot be trusted to see to their disarmament without international supervision. We have voted to extend millions in emergency assistance to Sudan, but that assistance will never reach them unless we create conditions on the ground that allow its distribution.

Mine is only one voice in a Chamber of 100 Senators, in a nation of millions of people. I don't know that what I have to say in the Senate will have an impact on anyone, but I could not and many of my colleagues could not countenance leaving Washington in good conscience for an August vacation recess and acting like the carnage in Sudan is not occurring. It is genocide. Those in the civilized world must stand up and not only condemn it but take action to bring it to an end as quickly as possible.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. COLLINS). The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. COLEMAN. Madam President, I rise to speak on a matter different than what my friend and colleague from Illinois has spoken about, but before I do, I associate myself with his comments.

I stand with him and others on both sides of the aisle in asking the question, Are we doing all that we should be doing in the Sudan? Genocide is occurring. We can have debate about the legal definition of genocide, but for the folks who are experiencing the pain and the suffering, the torture, they are not interested in legal debate.

I hope we heed the call of my friend from Illinois, that before we leave, before we go home to be with our families and do the things we do in our State

and throughout this country, that we at a minimum speak out, that at a minimum the voice of this Congress be heard, and that we then move forward on the path, beyond speaking out, that will provide some action, that will provide a level of safety, security, and comfort, the basic things that need to be done in the Sudan.

As I listened, I want my friend from Illinois to know that his words have had impact. I hope they echo far beyond these halls and that we do what should be done, that we make a statement in this Congress, that statement be turned into action, and that action has some impact.

(The remarks of Mr. COLEMAN pertaining to the introduction of S. 2715 are located in today's RECORD under “Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.”)

Mr. COLEMAN. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, last night I filed a cloture motion on the Sixth Circuit judicial nomination of Henry Saad. That vote will occur tomorrow morning. Two additional Sixth Circuit nominations are on the Executive Calendar, ready for consideration. I am prepared to ask unanimous consent for time agreements and up-or-down votes on these nominations; however, I understand that there will be objection from the other side.

I ask the Democrat leadership if it is true they would not agree to a time agreement on these Sixth Circuit nominations?

Mr. REID. The majority leader is correct.

#### NOMINATION OF RICHARD A. GRIFFIN TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

#### NOMINATION OF DAVID W. McKEAGUE TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

Mr. FRIST. With that objection, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed en bloc to the nominations of Calendar No. 789, Richard Griffin, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, and No. 790, David McKeague, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report the nominations.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of Richard A. Griffin, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit;

David W. McKeague, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

#### CLOTURE MOTIONS

Mr. FRIST. I send a cloture motion to the desk on the first nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 789, Richard A. Griffin of Michigan, to be U.S. circuit judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Bill Frist, Orrin Hatch, Lamar Alexander, Charles Grassley, Mike Crapo, Pete Domenici, Lincoln Chafee, Mitch McConnell, Ted Stevens, George Allen, Lindsey Graham, John Warner, Jeff Sessions, John Ensign, Trent Lott, Jim Talent, Pat Roberts.

Mr. FRIST. I now send a cloture motion to the desk on the second nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 790, David W. McKeague of Michigan, to be U.S. circuit judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Bill Frist, Orrin Hatch, Lamar Alexander, Charles Grassley, Mike Crapo, Pete Domenici, Lincoln Chafee, Mitch McConnell, Ted Stevens, George Allen, Lindsey Graham, John Warner, Jeff Sessions, John Ensign, Trent Lott, Jim Talent, Pat Roberts.

Mr. FRIST. I ask the mandatory quorums under rule XXII be waived and further that the votes on these nominations occur tomorrow in a stacked sequence, on Thursday, following the Saad cloture vote, unless cloture is invoked on any of the nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent there now be a period for morning business with Senators speaking for 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### HONORING EL MUNDO ON 24TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. REID. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate El Mundo on its 24th anniversary and to recognize the tremendous importance of this weekly newspaper to Nevada's Spanish-speaking community.

The oldest continuing Spanish language newspaper in southern Nevada,

El Mundo has grown dramatically over the last 24 years to a current readership of more than 120,000. The newspaper not only provides insightful coverage of important issues facing Nevada and the Nation, but also provides a window into the life and times of southern Nevada's Latino community.

By giving consumers the information they need to make important purchase decisions about everything from clothing to cars to homes, El Mundo's commercial listings have helped thousands of new residents acclimate to life in the region, and fueled the economic engine of southern Nevada.

The growth of El Mundo has paralleled the growth of Nevada's Latino community. When El Mundo was founded in 1980, about 50,000 Latinos lived in Nevada, representing 6 to 7 percent of the population. Today the Latino population approaches the half million mark and accounts for as much as 25 percent of our State's population.

El Mundo not only reflects the growing prominence of Latinos in Southern Nevada but also provides a channel through which this vibrant and diverse community is helping to shape the future of Nevada's economic, political, and cultural life.

I also want to take a moment to recognize Edward Escobedo, the founder and publisher of El Mundo, whose dedication and leadership has been indispensable to the growth of the newspaper. He and his colleagues can take great pride in transforming their vision into a southern Nevada institution. Eddie has been a leader in charitable and civic affairs in the greater Las Vegas area for decades. Nevada is a better place because of Eddie Escobedo.

#### LAS VEGAS INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

Mr. REID. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the Las Vegas International Folk Festival, which was held June 18 through 20.

Hosted by the Mexico Vivo Dance Company, the Festival brought together artists from around the world to celebrate the artistic traditions of the United States, Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean.

All of the festival's performances were free to the public, providing the residents of Las Vegas with a wonderful opportunity to experience the world's diverse artistic and cultural heritages. Some 500 performing artists and dance students participated in this 3-day event.

I want to take a moment to recognize Ixela Gutierrez, the festival's founder and artistic director, who helped make this wonderful event possible. Among the leading artists in Nevada, Ms. Gutierrez has enjoyed a successful soloist dance career with The National Folkloric Ballet of Mexico, served as company director of Ballet Ollimpaxqui, and choreographed six seasons for the Las Vegas Civic Ballet. She also founded the Mexico Vivo

Dance Company in Las Vegas in 1995 to preserve and share the rich artistic heritage of Mexican and Latin American folk dances.

Ms. Gutierrez has been recognized by many organizations throughout her career, and she received a special Award of Distinction in Culture from the Latin Chamber of Commerce of Las Vegas. She also has enjoyed the honor of performing for President Bush at the White House's Cinco de Mayo celebration. She is now focusing her energy and talent on building a new Las Vegas tradition, by making the International Folk Festival an annual event.

I also recognize the sponsors of this outstanding event: Fitzgerald's Hotel and Casino, Fremont Street Experience, Nevada Youth Alliance, and Mexican Patriotic Committee.

The inaugural Las Vegas International Folk Festival was a great success, and I am sure everyone who attended is looking forward to next year's event.

#### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

##### SERGEANT 1ST CLASS LINDA TARANGO-GRIESS

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Madam President, I rise today to honor SFC Linda Tarango-Griess of Sutton, NE.

Sergeant First Class Tarango-Griess served bravely in the 267th Ordnance Company of the Nebraska National Guard, which was deployed in February from Fort Riley, KS. She selflessly gave her time and her expertise to preserving American ideals through her service to the Guard. At the time of her death, she was serving in Samarra, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near her convoy vehicle.

Those who knew Sergeant First Class Tarango-Griess were continually inspired by the example of leadership she set, her positive attitude and her confidence were great assets to her and her colleagues. Her family recently set up a memorial in North Platte, NE. One poster, especially, demonstrated the ongoing optimism that she helped others to see. This poster reads: "We will miss you. No goodbyes. See you later."

My thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of SFC Linda Tarango-Griess, but she will remain as a beacon of dedication and patriotism to all Americans from her shining example of commitment through her service to the Armed Forces.

##### SERGEANT JEREMY FISCHER

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor SGT Jeremy Fischer of Lincoln, NE.

SGT Jeremy Fischer bravely dedicated his life to our Nation through his service with the 267th Ordnance Company of the Nebraska National Guard. Sergeant Fischer was deployed in February from Fort Riley, KS, and was serving in Samarra, Iraq at the time of his death on July 11, 2004, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy vehicle.

While SGT Fischer was in Iraq, he used his knowledge and skills to serve