



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

February 5, 2009

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C. Street, N.W., Room 7327
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Madame Secretary:

As our new Secretary of State, you no doubt will be meeting soon with the Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi. We are writing to strongly urge you to use that occasion to raise China's relationship with Sudan, and in particular the genocide in Darfur and the implementation of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan (CPA), with Foreign Minister Yang.

As you know, the regime in Khartoum has been carrying out genocide against the people of Darfur since 2003. During that time, more than 300,000 people have died from violent attacks, disease, or starvation, and more than 2.8 million people have been displaced. In addition, Khartoum repeatedly has obstructed implementation of the CPA, thereby threatening the resumption of the civil war between the North and South of Sudan.

There is evidence that the People's Republic of China has been complicit in the on-going slaughter of the peoples of Darfur. China is Sudan's major supplier of weapons, weapons technology, and weapons engineering expertise. The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) reported on July 14, 2008, that a Chinese military vehicle which had arrived in Sudan after the United Nations imposed an arms embargo was later located in Darfur carrying a Chinese anti-aircraft gun. Witnesses stated that the anti-aircraft gun was used to fire on civilian homes in Sirba, West Darfur, in December 2007. The BBC also reported that the Chinese continue to train Sudanese pilots to fly Chinese Fantan fighter jets, also in violation of the arms embargo. It is believed that these jets may have been used to bomb civilians in Darfur, including a February 19, 2008, attack on the town of Beybey.

In addition to its military complicity in the genocide in Darfur, Beijing is recognized as the only government capable of exerting meaningful influence over the

regime in Kartoum. China has invested more than \$10 billion in Sudan. China imports between 60 and 70 percent of Sudan's total oil production, is engaging in oil exploration in Sudan, and is Sudan's most important economic trading partner. And yet, China has failed to use its economic and diplomatic leverage with Sudan to compel that regime to abandon its genocidal policy in Darfur. China's appointment of a special envoy for the region and its contribution of multi-functional engineering troops to the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur are welcome, though not sufficient. Foreign Minister Yang should be given an unambiguous message that our government expects the Chinese government to undertake aggressive interventions on behalf of the suffering population in Darfur that will lead to an immediate and permanent cessation of the violence.

China also has refused to pressure General Omar al-Bashir, Sudan's embattled dictator, to fully implement the CPA between The Government of The Republic of The Sudan and The Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Sudan People's Liberation Army. In violation of the spirit of the revenue-sharing provisions of the CPA, Khartoum repeatedly has failed to publicize oil revenues generated by production in the south and in the disputed areas in a verifiable, transparent manner. Khartoum also is actively obstructing preparations for the conduct of national elections scheduled to take place in 2009 and the referendum in 2011. Such obstruction includes stalling: (1) publication of the national census results; (2) demarcation of the North-South border; and (3) disengagement of Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) from disputed areas. Further, Khartoum continues to block implementation of the Abyei Boundary Commission Report. Both the disengagement of SAF and the Abyei Boundary Commission Report implementation should be of particular concern to the Chinese, given their vested interest in securing the disputed oil-producing areas which may serve as flashpoints for a new round of war should the CPA fail.

Finally, China's positions on Darfur within the United Nations Security Council should be discussed with His Excellency Yang Yeichi. As a Permanent Member of the Security Council, China repeatedly has threatened to veto Council resolutions or has exerted its influence to force statements to be withdrawn or weakened. China abstained on resolutions 1556 (2004) and 1591 (2005) which bar the transfer of any arms to all parties involved in the Darfur conflict, and resolution 1706 (2006) which expanded the mandate of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan. China also reportedly delayed the work of the Sanctions Committee and the Panel of Experts on the Sudan established pursuant to UN Security Council Resolutions 1556 (2004) and 1591 (2005) for more than a year, presumably to mask its own violations of the arms embargo, and has refused to cooperate with the Panel of Experts. China should be formally requested to end its uncooperative behavior that is hindering meaningful action in Darfur by the international community.

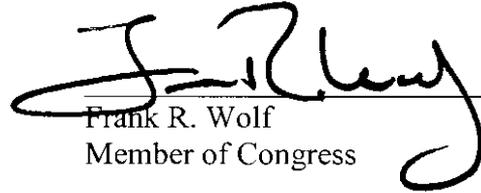
Your initial meeting with Foreign Minister Yang will provide a critical opportunity to emphasize the priority that the United States assigns to achieving peace in Darfur and in Sudan generally. Quiet diplomacy is not enough. China should be forcefully reminded through the Foreign Minister of its obligations to refrain from any

action, particularly the provision of weapons and military training, that contributes to the violence, and to pursue all economic and diplomatic means towards attaining peace.

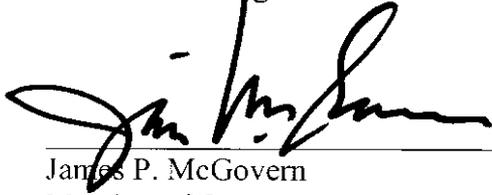
Sincerely,



Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



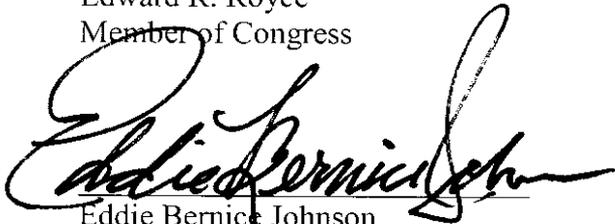
Trent Franks
Member of Congress



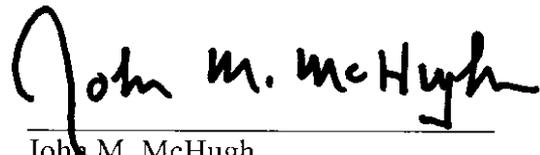
Edward R. Royce
Member of Congress



Barney Frank
Member of Congress



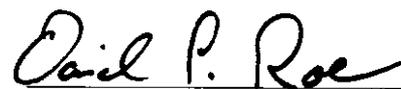
Eddie Bernice Johnson
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