

favors. Some may not. The important thing is that we recognize our President's leadership, that he is not saying: I am going to walk away from this. He is saying: I am going to do the right thing. And he is asking Congress to sit down with him. We owe him that because he is trying to do the right thing.

Secondly, it is irresponsible for any sitting Member of the Senate or the House of Representatives not to come to the table. Certainly we have disagreements, but all of us have the same goal. The goal is to save Social Security for future generations and to do it in the least expensive, most efficient, least obtrusive way we possibly can.

I am proud of the President's leadership. I am proud to support him in saying: Yes, we are going to do what is necessary now when it is less painful and less expensive.

I will now turn the rest of our time over to the distinguished Senator from Kansas. I note that he has just returned from Iraq. I think he just returned last night. I appreciate so much his coming to the Senate floor when I am sure he has jet lag. I know he has been through a trying time because like myself and others—we have been to Iraq. We know that it is a tough trip but certainly something worth doing for every sitting Member of Congress. You do learn so much about what our troops need, what they are facing. You want to pat them on the back and let them know how much America appreciates the efforts they are making.

I appreciate Senator BROWNBACK being here this morning. I appreciate very much his willingness to come to the floor and speak.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

IRAQ

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from Texas for her kind comments. I ran into a number of great troops from Texas, from Ft. Hood, TX, and individuals from Texas who are doing a fabulous job, putting their lives on the line and showing the definition of courage and honor. Those guys go right into the face of the fire, and when the fire fight comes when the bullets are flying, they are running towards the fire. It was really a beautiful modern-day story of courage under fire and of doing the right thing.

That right thing is now yielding, in the last week, multiparty elections in Egypt. Mubarak has not stood for elections in 25, 30 years. It is going to do that. With a protest now taking place, the Lebanese Government has withdrawn and is asking Syria to withdraw and to allow democracy to flourish in Lebanon. Saudi Arabia had flawed local elections, but they at least had somewhat of an election.

I met with officials in Iraq who are now discussing how to maintain a balance of power and an open society. The policies in Iraq are yielding enormous fruit—still difficult, still very fragile,

but those soldiers who have put so much on the line are really changing the world. I thank my colleague from Texas for her support in that effort. What we are seeing taking place in that region is amazing.

Our troops are in harm's way. We continue to see the number of improvised explosive devices about the same as they have in the past, although our number of wounded troops has gone down in the last 2 weeks about 40 percent, which is encouraging. That also means, apparently, that more of the attacks are directed at the Iraqis. We saw yesterday the horrific tragedy, over 100 Iraqis killed in a massive car bomb, that clearly the insurgency, much of it commanded and controlled out of other countries—and Syria has complicity of allowing some of this operation to take place—has to be pressured against that. But we have to get at that command and control structure of the insurgency and break that to be able to stop some of this incredible carnage that is taking place, people being killed in a country that just seeks to be free, seeks to be an open, fair society. It is difficult. In the early stages of democracy there will be flaws and missteps, but it is really changing the face of the region.

I met with Prime Minister Allawi. I met with the head of the Kurdish group, and Shias, Dr. Joffee. Each is talking about bringing in the Sunnis, working together, creating an open society. I am concerned about the issue of the role of Islam in the constitution. That is clearly one of the key issues being negotiated.

SUDAN

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I want to use most of my time to show some very graphic pictures of the face of genocide that is taking place in Darfur, Sudan. I wish I didn't need to do this. I wish the international community, particularly the United Nations, was acting so that something would take place to prevent this man-made genocide. But this genocide is occurring. It occurs while we are here today. It occurs in large numbers. Eric Reeves is probably the best documenter of Smith College. He estimates between 300,000 and 400,000 Darfurians have been killed in this genocide. I have been there. A number of Members have been there. Villages are being burned out by the Arab militia called Jingawit. The African Union has not been in power to put in a sufficient number of troops or with enough authority to act to be able to stop this horror.

What I am going to show on the floor are African Union monitors' pictures taken of people who have been killed and brutalized in western Sudan. They are graphic pictures. They are pictures of people who have been brutally killed in this genocide. My hope in showing this is that people will see the face of genocide and action will occur, specifi-

cally that the United Nations will take credible action. They have not. They have not taken credible economic action, political action, and they certainly haven't taken anything in the way of credible military action to stop this from occurring.

These pictures come courtesy of Nichol Kristof of the New York Times, who wrote a February 23 article in which some of these pictures appeared titled "The Secret Genocide Archive." In it, Kristof says: "These are just four pictures in a secret archive of thousands of photos and reports that document the genocide currently underway in Darfur. The materials were gathered by African Union monitors, who are about the only people able to travel widely in that part of the Sudan." He goes on to say, "The archive also includes an extraordinary document seized from a janjaweed official that apparently outlines genocidal policies. Dated last August, the document calls for the 'execution of all directives from the president of the republic' and is directed to regional commanders and security officials. 'Change the demography of Darfur and make it void of African tribes,' the document urges." I have yet to determine if that document has been verified, but understand that the State Department is analyzing it for authenticity, and certainly the actions taking place in Darfur today reflect those words.

Finally, Mr. Kristof writes, "I'm sorry for inflicting these horrific photos on you." Mr. Kristof, with all due respect, you need not apologize. It is the world community that needs to apologize for their complete inaction and indifference to this modern genocide.

Over 6 months ago the U.S. Congress declared genocide, followed shortly thereafter with a similar declaration by former Secretary of State Colin Powell. Failure to deem this genocide by the international community, which would force action, has led to death beyond measure and the threat of famine and disease that could wipe out many more thousands. Eric Reeves of Smith College reports, "evidence strongly suggests that total mortality in the Darfur region of western Sudan now exceeds 400,000 human beings since the outbreak of sustained conflict in February 2003." The widely reported official number of deaths, recorded only since last March, is 70,000 and nearly 2 million displaced.

To give you a frame of reference, the tsunami's death toll has been placed at around 200,000. We are talking here about 400,000 deaths in a man-made catastrophe—genocide—in Sudan.

I ask my colleagues, and particularly the international community and the U.N.—and Kofi Annan in particular—how many more thousands of deaths does it take?

Nichol Kristof provided me with additional pictures of the genocide in Sudan. I have these pictures for my colleagues to see, but due to their