

Mr. Parker began his Chairmanship in 2000 and has since worked diligently to protect and to promote conservative ideals and values in South Mississippi. He has proved to be not only an outstanding Chairman, but also an asset in helping to grow the Republican Party. From local elections to the Governor's race, Mr. Parker is well known throughout the State for his key involvement and noteworthy enthusiasm.

Outside of his political work, Mr. Parker is notorious within his community for his continued support of local charities and willingness to lend a hand to those in need.

Mr. Parker is a true public servant and strong community leader dedicated to providing a better future for our country. He has been an invaluable part of the fabric of the Jones County Republican Party, and his leadership will be truly missed.

Mr. Parker, on behalf of the United States Congress, thank you for your hard work and commitment as Chairman of the Jones County Republican Party. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 430, I was unavoidably detained at a personal doctor's appointment.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

CELEBRATING HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY'S CENTENNIAL YEAR

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize Humboldt State University's Centennial Year. Founded in 1913, Humboldt State University is the only state university in coastal Northern California and in my Congressional District. The university has made major contributions to the intellectual life, culture and economy of the North Coast, California and the nation.

One hundred years ago, on June 16, 1913, North Coast citizens had the foresight to help formally establish Humboldt State Normal School and to pledge \$12,000 and 12 acres of land to the school. Humboldt State University formally opened on April 6, 1914, and has since awarded more than 55,000 degrees to students from diverse economic and ethnic backgrounds.

Humboldt State University offers a broad array of academic programs and an outstanding college experience for 8,000 students each year, while contributing greatly to the regional community. The annual economic impact of Humboldt State University is estimated to be \$190 million on the North Coast and \$400 million statewide.

Humboldt State University is widely known for the personal attention faculty provide to students, and for the hands-on experiences

which complement classroom learning. The Humboldt State University faculty has established a strong reputation for excellence in teaching and research.

A longstanding commitment to environmental and social responsibility permeates the Humboldt State University curriculum and campus culture, which has enabled its alumni to make a difference wherever they live.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Humboldt State University for its many academic achievements and for the services it provides to many students throughout the state and nation. I encourage my colleagues and the North Coast community to join me in celebrating the university's centennial and in offering best wishes for its next 100 years.

WHAT IS THIS ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY IN SUDAN?

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to submit a letter I sent today to President Obama regarding Sudan as well as a copy of my Darfur trip report which I issued in July 2004 after having been a part of the first Congressional delegation to the region. Just months later then-Secretary of State Colin Powell described what was happening as genocide—a descriptor that President Obama himself used as recently as 2009.

And yet, the Sudan Special Envoy position remains vacant after nearly five months. Violence, displacement and atrocities continue in Darfur and the Nuba Mountains. And Sudanese President Bashir continues to travel the globe with virtual impunity.

What is this administration's policy in Sudan?

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, August 2, 2013.

HON. BARACK H. OBAMA,

The President, The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I have written you on more than one occasion about the persistent vacancy of the Sudan Special Envoy post, which has been unfilled for nearly five months. This is indefensible given the current state of affairs in Sudan.

I enclose for your reference a recent piece that Sudan expert and advocate Professor Eric Reeves authored for the Washington Post. He paints a grim picture about the situation in Darfur, lamenting that this genocide, which once captured our collective national outrage, now seems to have disappeared from public view leaving us with the misperception that the violence has subsided and the crisis resolved. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Reeves writes ". . . the slaughter has continued in Darfur: Some 500,000 people have died in the past 10 years from war-related causes. In 2009, as president, Obama again declared that 'genocide' was occurring in Darfur, yet little followed from this." He continued, "But the people of Darfur have been left defenseless largely because of an unforgivable lack of attention and leadership by the United States. The policies of Obama's administration have hardly matched his rhetoric. Indeed, in a bizarre reprise of policies for which Obama had sharply criticized the Bush administration, on

Nov. 8, 2010, senior administration officials explicitly 'decoupled' Darfur from the largest bilateral issue between Washington and Khartoum: the latter's place on the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism."

While Reeves' focus in the enclosed editorial is on Darfur—that region is far from being the only humanitarian and human rights catastrophe in Sudan. Last year I visited Yida refugee camp in South Sudan. I heard harrowing stories from a growing refugee population that had fled the Nuba Mountains, including indiscriminate aerial bombardments aimed at civilian populations, the use of food as a weapon of war, people driven from their homes and targeted for killing because of the color of their skin. In short I heard echoes of my time spent in Darfur as the first member of the House of Representatives to visit in July 2004.

Last year I offered an amendment to the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill which would have cut non-humanitarian foreign assistance to any nation that allowed Sudanese President Omar Bashir, an internationally indicted war criminal, into their country without arresting him. The amendment was adopted with bipartisan support by voice vote.

The amendment I proposed would have effectively isolated Bashir and made him an international pariah as is befitting a man with blood on his hands. It is noteworthy that the amendment garnered the support of 70 prominent Holocaust and genocide scholars. Dr. Rafael Medoff, director of the Wyman Institute, which initiated a letter of support to the administration from these scholars, said: "Halting aid to those who host Bashir would be the first concrete step the U.S. has taken to isolate the Butcher of Darfur and pave the way for his arrest. If the Obama administration is serious about punishing perpetrators of genocide, it should support the Wolf Amendment."

Sadly that support never materialized. In fact your administration actively sought to remove this language from the final bill. Meanwhile, Bashir remains free to travel where he pleases, and the people of Sudan see no end in sight to their suffering and U.S. policy is in tatters.

The FY 2014 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, which just last week passed out of the full committee, included language consistent with the amendment I offered last year. In seeking to isolate Bashir, our options are limited but far from nonexistent.

Will your administration support this effort? Will Bashir be made to face some modicum of consequence for his actions? Will the special envoy position be filled before the fall?

Professor Reeves' piece featured this quote from you: "We can't say 'never again' and then allow it to happen again, and as a president of the United States, I don't intend to abandon people or turn a blind eye to slaughter." I wish, and more importantly the suffering people of Sudan wish, we had seen an ounce of that moral clarity and conviction since you took office. Sudan has historically been a bipartisan issue. We may be from different parties but I had thought, based on your campaign rhetoric, that this might be an area of common cause.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

[From the Washington Post]

CIVILIANS IN SUDAN'S DARFUR REGION FACE WHOLESALE DESTRUCTION

(By Eric Reeves)

After years of obscurity and little reliable international reporting, the vast human catastrophe in Sudan's Darfur region is again