

## **AFRICAN FREEDOM COALITION**

March 5, 2018

Dear Senator X:

As you know, the black population in Sudan is in extremis, victims of an ongoing racist genocide of 63 years, and a death toll of 4.5 million. Today, in Darfur alone, more than 2.7 million people are displaced, living in squalor, policed by the Janjaweed militia. They are subject to starvation, rape, and murder, and suffer from Khartoum's blockade of humanitarian aid.

In November, 2017, Khartoum persuaded this U.S. administration to drop our sanctions of 20 years, without any real concessions on their part. That decision was made by elements of our U.S. Intelligence Community as reward for Khartoum's alleged cooperation on counterterrorism. Now, Sudan is pressuring us to remove them from the list of U.S. State Sponsors of Terrorism, which would qualify them for relief of \$51 billion debt.

Congress has allowed itself to be largely excluded from the decision-making process, leaving Intelligence as the overriding factor dictating U.S. policy on Sudan. Some lawmakers, however, have now begun to speak out. In a recent letter to the Administration on 1/31/18, signed by Senators Cardin, Booker, Markey, Coons, and Merkley, they refer to "systematic violations of human rights in Sudan— including genocide—", and conclude with, "Khartoum must understand that cooperation on terrorism does not mean that the U.S. will turn a blind eye as the government willfully disregards democracy and human rights, or ignores the dire humanitarian situation faced by its most vulnerable."

The U.S. must not reward genocide in Sudan. Congress needs to take its proper role of oversight of the Intelligence Community, demand to be fully informed of the U.S. relationship with Khartoum, and reject further appeasement. Please consider your role as lawmaker, Ranking member of SASC, member of SSCI, and join your colleagues to promote protection for the beleaguered black population of Sudan.

**African Freedom Coalition,**

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