

haven in the U.S. following crippling natural disasters and civil conflict, but earlier this year the Trump administration officially ended their protected status. As part of the case, which has a key hearing in front of a judge in San Francisco next month, lawyers for the ACLU and the National Day Laborer Organizing Network convinced the court to order the federal government to

disclose communication between DHS officials and other federal agencies,

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including with officials at the Pentagon and the State Department.

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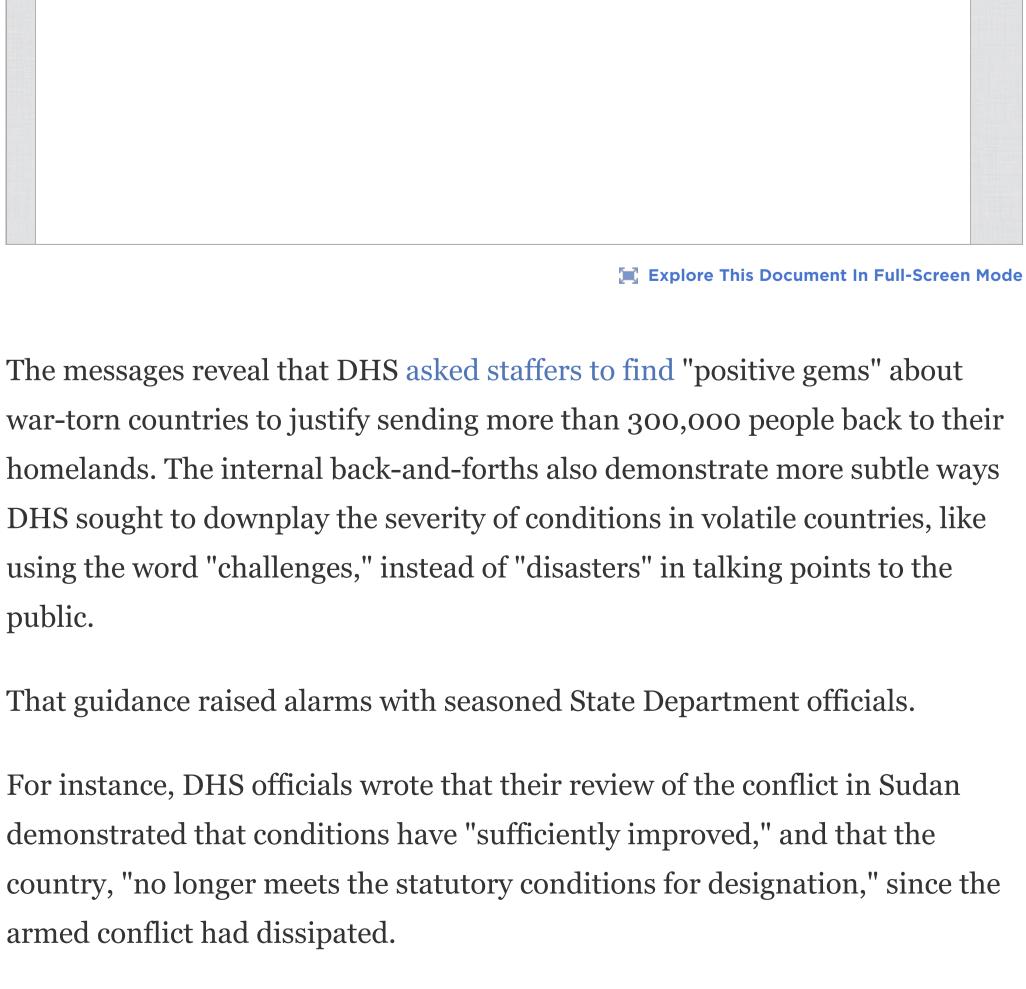
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career foreign service officer for Sudan Paul Sutphin wrote to DHS. He

inaccuracies," Sutphin wrote, "as a green light" from the United States

imperil Sudanese who have fled violence.

conflict-affected areas."

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hundreds of thousands of people, some having been protected by the status for decades. "We literally were forced to dispatch our Foreign Affairs Officers by taxi to the embassies with virtually no notice to inform the host governments of the imminent announcement," wrote Chris Ashe, a top State Department official, to DHS leadership.

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their reports,

in countries and

Ahilan Arulanantham, ACLU

To ACLU lawyer Ahilan Arulanantham, who is representing five TPS

immigration than it is with following the law.

"They cut diplomats out of the decision-

downplayed sometimes really horrific

problems in countries and basically did

the Trump administration wanted,"

Arulanantham said in an interview.

making process. They rewrote their reports,

everything they could to justify the result that

Those policy goals, in Arulanantham's view,

are not just unconstitutional, which is what

his suit claims, but also "motivated by racist,

immigrants as possible" at any cost, he said.

said no longer deserve the protection.

administration has broken the law."

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On Friday, DHS officials told NPR they are standing by the decision. "As intended by Congress, TPS was always meant to be a temporary mechanism to address urgent humanitarian conditions," said Katie Waldman, a spokeswoman for DHS.

forward with ending the humanitarian program for countries federal officials

white supremacist agenda," since, Trump's goal is to "expel as many

ACLU lawyers and the federal government are expected to deliver arguments over whether TPS was ended legally. If not, a judge could order the Trump administration to reinstate the protections. "The law is if the conditions in the country remain unsafe or unstable then you should extend the temporary protected status," Arulanantham said. "This

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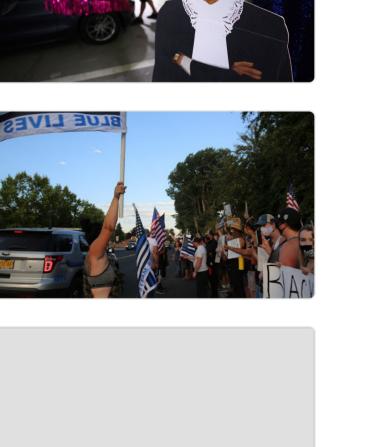
The problem with that conclusion? It is not accurate, according to an email additionally worried that such a soft assessment of dire conditions could "It is likely that the Sudanese government could view the current language and government "to force the return of internally displaced" people "to deadly Other State Department officials wrote to DHS saying they were caught flatfooted by the demise of a program that has provided legal shelter in the U.S. to

recipients in the suit against the Trump administration, the emails show that DHS is more concerned with carrying out Trump's hardline stance on They cut diplomats out of the decision-making process. They rewrote downplayed sometimes really horrific problems basically did everything they could to justify the result that the Trump administration wanted. Despite the concerns raised by diplomats and other State Department officials about the justifications DHS was laying out, the Trump administration moved

"For countries where an extension is justified under the law, DHS has issued appropriate extensions to assist those affected by the conditions prescribed in People who have protection under TPS have to renew their permits every 18 months. As such, recipients from countries from which Trump has rescinded the protection have a 18 months to leave the country or face deportation That said, the ACLU and immigration advocates are hoping that the pending legal challenge will force a policy shift before thousands have to leave the U.S. A Sept. 25 hearing has been set in federal court in San Francisco in which

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becoming safer, even when that was not the case, in order to justify ending or natural disasters.

Temporary Protected Status for hundreds of thousands of people fleeing war The American Civil Liberties Union sued the Trump administration in an attempt to restore protected status to immigrants from Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador. Thousands from those four countries were given safe

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