

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, February 14, 1996.

Hon. WARREN CHRISTOPHER,  
U.S. Department of State,  
Washington, DC.

Re Louis Farrakhan's Trip to Iran and Libya

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I write to urge you as the Secretary of State to investigate Louis Farrakhan's recent trips to Libya and Iran, which are listed on the United States' terrorist list for their roles in state sponsored terrorism. By engaging in such travel, it is my understanding that Mr. Farrakhan may have violated several federal statutes, including the Foreign Agents Registration Act, various passport travel restrictions, sanctions regulations and the Logan Act.

An investigation by your department is critical to determine the means by which Mr. Farrakhan traveled to Libya and Iran, what economic contributions he may have made to these countries, whether there exists any financial relationship between these terrorist governments and Louis Farrakhan's Nation of Islam, and answers to other relevant questions.

It is unconscionable and unacceptable for our government to stand idly by, while federal laws may have been disregarded with impunity by this man.

I respectfully urge your department to take whatever action is necessary, including comprehensive investigations to fully disclose Louis Farrakhan's travels and interaction with the terrorist regimes in Libya and Iran.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation in this matter, and I look forward to working with you in this regard.

With kind regards, I am,  
Very truly yours,

BOB BARR,  
Member of Congress.

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Hon. JANET RENO,  
Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice,  
Washington, DC.

Re Louis Farrakhan's trip to Iran and Libya.

DEAR ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO: I write to urge you as Attorney General of the United States to, as soon as possible, investigate Louis Farrakhan's recently trips to Libya and Iran, which are listed on the United States' terrorist list for their roles in state-sponsored terrorism. By engaging in such travel, it is my understanding that Mr. Farrakhan may have violated several federal statutes, including the Foreign Agents Registration Act, various passport travel restrictions, sanctions regulations, and the Logan Act.

An investigation by your department is critical to determine the means by which Mr. Farrakhan traveled to Libya and Iran, what economic contributions he may have made to these countries, whether there exists any financial relationship between these terrorist governments and Louis Farrakhan's Nation of Islam, and answers to other relevant questions.

It is unconscionable and unacceptable for our government to stand idly by, while federal laws may have been disregarded with impunity by this man.

I respectfully urge your office to take whatever action is necessary, including comprehensive investigations to fully disclose Louis Farrakhan's travels and interaction with the terrorist regimes in Libya and Iran.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation in this matter, and I look forward to working with you in this regard.

With kind regards, I am,  
Very truly yours,

BOB BARR,  
Member of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, to say that Mr. Farrakhan is, quote, cavorting with dictators, close quote, as one presidential spokesman initially said, is not enough. Our laws should be the rule of the land, not political interests of the moment.

Even beyond, Mr. Speaker, the immediate questions about whether Mr. Farrakhan has violated U.S. laws, looms the broader issue of whether U.S. laws purporting to guard against U.S. citizens conspiring to work against U.S. national security interests have any meaning whatsoever. Do our laws, which prevent U.S. citizens from serving as conduits for foreign money being interjected into the U.S. political system, have any meaning or not?

These fundamental and basic questions about the scope and strength and rule of U.S. laws guarding our national security and guarding the integrity of our political system must be addressed. We must have the backbone to ask these questions through appropriate congressional hearings and through appropriate law enforcement review by the Department of Justice.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 927, CUBAN LIBERTY AND DEMOCRATIC SOLIDARITY (LIBERTAD) ACT OF 1996

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-470) on the resolution (H. Res. 370) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 927) to seek international sanctions against the Castro government in Cuba, to plan for support of a transition government leading to a democratically elected government in Cuba, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DEUTSCH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEUTSCH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### CONDEMNING VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BENTSEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, for the fourth time in 9 days, a savage suicide bomber has attacked the people and the state of Israel, seeking to terrorize its people and destabilize the Middle East peace process. The latest bombing, outside Tel Aviv's largest shopping

mall, struck a crowded center filled with families and many children dressed in costume for the Jewish holiday festival of Purim. At least 12 were killed and 120 wounded in yesterday's bombing, only 1 day after a bus bombing in Jerusalem killed 18 people. The latest terrorist attacks bring the death toll of this 9-day siege to 59.

The United States and the world must stand with Israel in this time of crisis. The actions of Hamas, the militant Moslem group which has claimed responsibility for these bombings, should not be tolerated. We cannot allow these terrorists to undermine the peace process and reverse the tremendous progress that has been made. More importantly, we must do all we can to stop these terrorist attacks and all who would support them militarily and financially.

Israeli President Shimon Peres reiterated yesterday that Israel would not surrender to terrorists, and I have no doubt he will bring the nation's full weight to bear on Hamas and their allies who would threaten the very existence of Israel.

I am pleased that President Clinton has moved swiftly to assist Israel in its efforts to battle this deadly wave of terrorism. The highly sophisticated bomb detection equipment and technical experts the United States sent to Israel today will support Israel's efforts to bring the killers to justice and to prevent future bombings.

While these attacks have been portrayed as acts of revenge for Israel's killing of a Hamas terrorist leader, there can be no doubt today that these attacks are designed to undermine the peace process between Israel and the Palestinian authority led by Yasser Arafat. The actions of Hamas should not be tolerated nor should they be allowed to sway our commitment to peace.

We here in the U.S. Congress must not waiver on our own commitment to this effort. Domestically, we must do everything within the law to ensure that Hamas and other terrorist groups do not receive financial support from within the United States. Internationally, we must lead the world in taking strong action against any nation that harbors or supports terrorists.

We must also demand that Chairman Arafat and Palestinian Authority use the police powers granted under the peace process to bring these terrorists to justice. Finally, we must endorse the Israeli Cabinet's position of troop deployment as an allowable exception to the Peace accords to address an inexcusable action on the part of a terrorist organization.

Today, all Israel mourns the loss of its friends and family, and the entire world grieves with them. We can best honor the victims of these bombings by recommitting ourselves to a comprehensive peace for Israel and the entire Middle East. But we must also recognize there can be no true peace until the terrorists behind these attacks are