

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 163

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should not provide assistance to terrorist organizations affiliated with the Palestinian Authority or to the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation (PBC).

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 1, 1997

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. WELLER, Mr. BRADY, Mr. SNOWBARGER, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. FORBES, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. HORN, Mr. PAXON, Mr. QUINN, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. LINDER, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. BONO, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. CANNON, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. SOLOMON, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should not provide assistance to terrorist organizations affiliated with the Palestinian Authority or to the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation (PBC).

Whereas the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation (hereafter the “PBC”), an official arm of the Palestinian Authority, has been engaged in serious offenses of broadcasting hostile propaganda against the United States and Israel;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority, via the PBC and its subsidiary, the Voice of Palestine, on Friday, September 12,

1997, broadcast the speech of the Palestinian Authority Mufti Ikrama Sabri who called on Muslims “to raise [our] voices against America” and who referred to the United States as the chief of the terrorists;

Whereas Mufti Sabri further advocated the destruction of the United States by saying “Oh Allah, destroy America, her agents and her allies! Cast them into their own traps, and cover the White House with black!”;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority, via the PBC and the Voice of Palestine, on July 11, 1997, broadcast another speech by Mufti Sabri when he called for the destruction of the United States by saying “Oh Allah, destroy America . . . Allah will paint the White House black!”;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority and PBC have also been engaged in broadcasting hostile propaganda against the State of Israel as demonstrated by the June 14, 1997, broadcast of the Voice of Palestine in which the PBC made statements calling the Palestinian people to violence, including stating that the Palestinian people have the right to react to settlement terror via all means;

Whereas on May 22, 1997, the PBC, via the Voice of Palestine, read a poem which referred to Israelis as wolves, tormentors, and dogs;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority is engaged in restrictive journalism as exemplified by their Press Law of 1995 which restricts free press and states that editors-in-chief must be Palestinian or non-Palestinian nationals who have worked with the Palestine Liberation Organization;

Whereas the Congress believes that the actions of the Palestinian Authority, via its agency the PBC, threaten the

national interests of the United States and the security of its citizens;

Whereas the Congress believes that the actions of the Palestinian Authority, via the PBC, undermine the Middle East peace process and incite hatred of, and fatal terrorist acts against, Israelis;

Whereas the Congress believes that the United States should assist independent Palestinian journalists in their efforts to provide the Palestinian people with a free and open press; and

Whereas the Congress believes that the Palestinian Authority and the PBC have failed to exercise journalistic integrity and have engaged in actions that have harmed the prospects for peace in the Middle East: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3 (1) the United States should not provide assist-
4 ance to any organization affiliated with the Palestin-
5 ian Authority that advocates the destruction of the
6 United States and supports acts of terrorism;

7 (2) the United States should not provide assist-
8 ance, either directly or indirectly, to the Palestinian
9 Broadcasting Corporation or any of its affiliated or
10 successor agencies; and

11 (3) the United States should support a system
12 of independent journalists in the Middle East who

- 1 observe a code of professional journalism similar to
- 2 the code adopted by the Voice of America.

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