

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 25, 2011

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Robert Mueller III
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
FBI Headquarters
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Secretary Clinton and Director Mueller:

As Members of Congress who have long advocated for the release of captive Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit, we share the delight of his family, friends, and nation that he has arrived safely home. The Israeli government had to make serious sacrifices to bring this national nightmare to an end, and we have nothing but contempt for the crimes committed by the released Palestinian prisoners.

As you are well aware, 1,027 Palestinian security prisoners are to be released as part of the Gilad Shalit deal between Israel and Hamas. These prisoners include the murderers of kidnapped IDF soldiers Nachshon Wachsman, Ilan Sasportas and Ilan Saadon. Other prisoners being released include the perpetrator of the Bus 405 Tel Aviv-Jerusalem attack in 1989, the mastermind of the 2002 "Passover massacre" in Netanya, the terrorist who killed 10 Israelis in Wadi Harmiyeh north of Ramallah in 2002, the terrorist who brought the suicide bomber to the Sbarro restaurant in Jerusalem in 2001, and several perpetrators of the lynching in Ramallah in October 2000.

In light of this event, we urge you to work across the Intelligence Community to ensure these individuals are included in all relevant terrorist databases. Each of these released Palestinian prisoners has been convicted of a terrorism-related offense and should be treated as such. All government resources must be utilized, including the Terrorist Screening Center's Terrorist Screening Database (TSDB) and the State Department's Consular Lookout and Support System (CLASS), to make certain that these convicted terrorists are not granted the privilege of entering the United States of America.

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Page Two

We thank the Administration for its attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you regarding the steps your departments are taking to address our request.

Sincerely,

HOWARD L. BERMAN
Ranking Member

Cc: James R. Clapper Jr., Director of National Intelligence
Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security
John O. Brennan, Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism