

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 523

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist bombing of the United States Embassies in East Africa.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 9, 1998

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist bombing of the United States Embassies in East Africa.

Whereas on August 7, 1998, 254 people, 12 of whom were United States citizens, were killed when a bomb exploded at the United States Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, and 9 people were killed when a bomb exploded at the United States Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania;

Whereas these bombs were detonated minutes apart and were clearly coordinated;

Whereas in both cases trucks, driven by suicidal terrorists and loaded with explosives, approached the embassies but were diverted from attacking their primary targets by quick thinking Embassy security staff;

Whereas the bombs did explode, injuring thousands of innocent civilians and destroying millions of dollars worth of local property;

Whereas the Governments of Israel and France immediately sent search and rescue teams to aid in the aftermath of the bombings;

Whereas on August 7, 1998, Pakistani police arrested suspect Muhammad Sadiq Odeh, who confessed to being part of a team which was orchestrated and financed by Osama bin Laden; and

Whereas Osama bin Laden, an exiled Saudi Arabian businessman who is believed to be currently living in Afghanistan, is a known sponsor of international terrorism against secular Middle Eastern regimes and has publicly stated his support for attacks against American influence, Americans, and American targets: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) expresses the deep condolences of the House
3 of Representatives and the American people to the
4 families of all persons killed or injured in the bomb-
5 ing;

6 (2) expresses our dismay for the mayhem and
7 destruction visited upon the Governments and people
8 of Kenya and Tanzania;

9 (3) expresses gratitude to the people and the
10 Governments of Kenya and Tanzania for their as-

1 sistance to the people and the property of the United
2 States in the aftermath of the bombings;

3 (4) expresses our gratitude to the United States
4 Embassy guards whose quick thinking and heroic ac-
5 tions prevented even more deaths and injuries;

6 (5) expresses our gratitude to the people and
7 the Governments of Israel and France, as well as
8 the many private organizations which volunteered to
9 assist the United States in the aftermath of the
10 bombings;

11 (6) expresses our condemnation of all persons
12 and parties involved in the outrageous and illegal at-
13 tacks which resulted in the tragic loss of life of so
14 many Americans and Africans;

15 (7) expresses the determination of the House of
16 Representatives to assist, in any way possible, in the
17 arrest of all persons responsible for these attacks;
18 and

19 (8) expresses the intention of the House of Rep-
20 resentatives to examine whether security needs of
21 United States facilities overseas are being met and
22 what kinds of tools can be employed to discourage
23 nations from harboring terrorists.

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