

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 211

Expressing the sense of Congress and appreciation for the support and cooperation from Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 5, 2003

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. PENCE, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. TANCREDO) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress and appreciation for the support and cooperation from Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Whereas Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar openly gave their support to Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar have openly expanded their bilateral and security cooperation with the United States in recent years;

Whereas through their support for and cooperation with the United States, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar exposed themselves to the threat of conventional and unconventional attacks from Iraq;

Whereas during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Kuwait was subjected to attack by 20 Iraqi missiles, some of which caused injuries and property damage;

Whereas Kuwait provided substantial humanitarian assistance to Iraq in support of coalition goals during Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas since its independence in 1961, Kuwait has maintained close relations with the United States;

Whereas since the 1991 Persian Gulf War, Camp Doha, Ali Salem, and Ahmed Al Jaber airbases have served as critical facilities in Kuwait for the deployment of United States forces in the region;

Whereas Kuwait openly put these and other Kuwaiti bases and training camps at the disposal of coalition forces during Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas Kuwait openly allowed the United States to pre-position large numbers of troops and weapons in its country, thus serving as the major staging point for Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas before and during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Kuwait placed itself at grave risk by providing vital and unwavering assistance to the United States and its coalition partners, including access to airports, port facilities, and bases;

Whereas Kuwait has openly allowed itself to be named on the United States' list of the "coalition of the willing", and has been the most receptive Arab government to United States efforts to depose the Iraqi regime of Saddam Hussein;

Whereas Bahrain openly serves as the headquarters for the United States Navy's Fifth Fleet and as the home port for four United States Navy minesweepers;

Whereas Bahrain has also openly supported the United States by allowing the use of the Sheikh Isa airbase for cargo storage and supply flights for coalition forces;

Whereas Bahrain has openly supported the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom by providing extensive over-flight clearances for a multitude of United States aircraft;

Whereas Bahrain recently expelled Nazem Jawad, the First Secretary of Iraq's embassy in Bahrain, for his alleged connection to an explosion at the United States Navy's Fifth Fleet Headquarters on March 24, 2003;

Whereas since the 1991 Persian Gulf War, the United States and Qatar have extensively expanded bilateral relations;

Whereas Qatar allowed for the rapid expansion and utilization by coalition forces of al-Udaid airbase, where the United States military has operated its forward-deployed command-and-control center for Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas Qatar openly allowed the United States to construct the As-Sayliyah Army base, the largest pre-positioning facility for United States military equipment in the world;

Whereas on December 11, 2002, the United States and Qatar signed an agreement providing for expanded United States access to Qatar's al-Udeid airbase;

Whereas Qatar has also closely cooperated with the United States in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan; and

Whereas other allies in the region quietly provided logistical and intelligence support, the pre-positioning of military equipment, overflight rights, humanitarian and reconstruction aid, the use of ports and other facilities, and political support: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) expresses its gratitude to the people and
4 Governments of Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar for
5 their generous and steadfast support of the United
6 States-led coalition in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

7 (2) reaffirms its appreciation to the people and
8 Governments of Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar for
9 welcoming the presence of United States and coali-
10 tion military forces in their countries for Operation
11 Iraqi Freedom;

12 (3) commends the people and Governments of
13 Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar for pledging their as-
14 sistance to rebuilding a free, democratic, and unified
15 Iraq;

16 (4) notes with gratitude that the people and
17 Governments of Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar have
18 been full and active partners with the United States
19 in the global war on terrorism following the terrorist
20 attacks against the United States that occurred on
21 September 11, 2001;

1 (5) supports the people and Governments of
2 Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar in their pursuit of
3 democratic reforms; and

4 (6) urges a further strengthening of relations
5 between Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar and the United
6 States on issues of mutual concern.

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