

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 188

Condemning the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in July 1994, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 18, 2007

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself and Mr. LANTOS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Condemning the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in July 1994, and for other purposes.

Whereas on July 18, 1994, 85 innocent people were killed and 300 were wounded when the Argentine Jewish Mutual Association (AMIA) was bombed in Buenos Aires, Argentina;

Whereas extensive evidence links the planning of the attacks to the Government of Iran, and the execution of the attacks to the terrorist group Hezbollah, which is based in Lebanon, supported by Syria, and sponsored by Iran;

Whereas on October 25, 2006, the State Prosecutor of Argentina, an office created by the current Government of Argentina, concluded that the AMIA bombing was “decided and organized by the highest leaders of the former

government of . . . Iran, whom, at the same time, entrusted its execution to the Lebanese terrorist group Hezbollah”;

Whereas on October 25, 2006, the State Prosecutor of Argentina concluded that the AMIA bombing had been approved in advance by Iran’s Supreme Leader Ali Khamene’i, Iran’s then-leader Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Iran’s then-Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, and Iran’s then-Minister of Security and Intelligence Ali Fallahijan;

Whereas on October 25, 2006, the State Prosecutor of Argentina stated that the Government of Iran uses “terrorism as a mechanism of its foreign policy” in support of “its final aim [which] is to export its radicalized vision of Islam and to eliminate the enemies of the regime”;

Whereas on October 25, 2006, the State Prosecutor of Argentina identified Ibrahim Hussein Berro, a Lebanese citizen and member of Hezbollah, as the suicide bomber who primarily carried out the attack on the AMIA;

Whereas on November 9, 2006, Argentine Judge Rodolfo Canicoba Corral, pursuant to the request of the State Prosecutor of Argentina, issued an arrest warrant for Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, a former leader of Iran and the current chairman of Iran’s Expediency Council, for his involvement in the AMIA bombing and urged the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to issue an international arrest warrant for Rafsanjani and detain him;

Whereas on November 9, 2006, Argentine Judge Rodolfo Canicoba Corral, pursuant to the request of the State Prosecutor of Argentina, also issued arrest warrants for

Ali Fallahijan, a former Iranian Minister of Security and Intelligence, Ali Akbar Velayati, a former Iranian Foreign Minister, Mohsen Rezai, a former commander of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), Ahmad Vahidi, a former commander of the elite Al-Quds Force of the IRGC, Hadi Soleimanpour, a former Iranian ambassador to Argentina, Mohsen Rabbani, a former cultural attache at the Iranian Embassy in Buenos Aires, Ahmed Reza Asghari, a former official at the Iranian Embassy in Buenos Aires, and Imad Moughnieh, a leading operations chief of Hezbollah;

Whereas on March 5, 2007, the Executive Committee of INTERPOL supported the issuance of arrest warrants, also known as capture notices for Hezbollah operative Imad Moughnieh and five Iranian officials noted above for whom Argentine Judge Rodolfo Canicoba Corral issued arrest warrants;

Whereas Iran has appealed the INTERPOL Executive Committee's decision, and the General Assembly of INTERPOL will issue a final ruling on the arrest warrants when it meets in Morocco in November 2007;

Whereas the inability to reach suspected Islamist militants and Iranian officials has debilitated the efforts of the Government of Argentina to prosecute masterminds and planners of the 1994 AMIA bombing;

Whereas the current Government of Argentina has made significant advances in the AMIA investigation; and

Whereas Argentina recently approved anti-terrorist legislation which seeks to criminalize financing, fund-raising, and money laundering activities of groups linked to terrorism: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) reiterates its strongest condemnation of the
4 1994 attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Cen-
5 ter in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and honors the vic-
6 tims of this heinous act;

7 (2) expresses its sympathy to the relatives of
8 the victims, who have waited 13 years without jus-
9 tice for the loss of their loved ones, and may have
10 to wait even longer for justice to be served;

11 (3) applauds the current Government of Argen-
12 tina for increasing the pace of the AMIA bombing
13 investigation, as well as on its recently approved
14 anti-terrorism legislation;

15 (4) urges the Government of Argentina to con-
16 tinue to dedicate and provide the resources nec-
17 essary for its judicial system and intelligence agen-
18 cies to investigate all areas of the AMIA case and
19 to bring those responsible to justice;

20 (5) calls upon the General Assembly of
21 INTERPOL to uphold, issue and implement the
22 international arrest warrants supported by the Exec-
23 utive Committee of INTERPOL in March 2007; and

24 (6) calls upon responsible nations to cooperate
25 fully with the investigation, including by making in-

1 formation, witnesses, and suspects available for re-
2 view and questioning by the appropriate Argentine
3 authorities, and by detaining and extraditing to Ar-
4 gentina, if given the opportunity, any of the Iranian
5 officials and former officials, Hezbollah operatives,
6 and Islamist militants against whom Argentine or
7 international arrest warrants are pending in connec-
8 tion with the AMIA case.

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