

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 724

Expressing the sense of the Senate on the horrific terrorist attacks and siege in Mumbai, India, beginning on November 26, 2008, and concluding on November 29, 2008.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 9, 2008

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. CONRAD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate on the horrific terrorist attacks and siege in Mumbai, India, beginning on November 26, 2008, and concluding on November 29, 2008.

Whereas, on the evening of November 26, 2008, evidence strongly suggests that 10 terrorists came ashore into the city of Mumbai, India, from a hijacked fishing trawler in the Arabian Sea, and conducted coordinated attacks on major hotels, restaurants, hospitals, and transportation hubs, and a religious center;

Whereas the attackers entered into a standoff with security forces of the Government of India over the next 60 hours at a number of sites, deliberately holding many hostages while trapping other innocent victims with no means of escape;

Whereas authorities of the Government of India brought the horrific three-day siege of Mumbai to a close on the morning of November 29, 2008;

Whereas the final death toll from the siege exceeded 170 victims, with hundreds more injured;

Whereas those murdered include citizens of India as well as 22 foreigners from 11 different countries, including the following six United States citizens: Aryeh Leibish Teitelbaum, Rabbi Gavriel Noah Holtzberg, Ben Zion Chroman, Sandeep Jeswani, Alan Michael Scherr, and Naomi Leia Scherr.

Whereas the terrorists who attacked Mumbai attacked a symbol of religious pluralism and outreach, a Jewish outreach center at the Nariman House, murdering six residents of the Nariman House, including Rabbi Holtzberg and his five-month pregnant wife, Rivka, orphaning their two-year old son, Moshe, who was heroically rescued by his Indian nanny, Sandra Samuel;

Whereas nine of the attackers were found dead at various sites where they were engaged in a standoff with authorities of the Government of India, with only one surviving attacker taken into custody;

Whereas evidence collected to date suggests the involvement of an Islamic militant group, Lashkar-e-Taiba, that has ties to al Qaeda and operates out of Pakistan;

Whereas India has endured a series of devastating terrorist attacks in recent years, suffering 3,674 deaths from terrorist attacks in a recent three-year period; and

Whereas India, the world's largest democracy, is a strategic partner of the United States, and this bilateral relation-

ship is built on common values and unity against extremism: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) affirms that the people of the United States
3 stand in unison with the people of India in the after-
4 math of these horrific terrorist attacks;

5 (2) condemns strongly the atrocities perpetrated
6 against the people of Mumbai, conveys its deepest
7 condolences to the families and loved ones of those
8 killed, and expresses its wishes for the speedy recovery
9 of the hundreds of people injured in these sense-
10 less attacks;

11 (3) notes that these attacks did not only target
12 citizens of India, but represented a collective assault
13 against the international community, with 22 for-
14 eigners, including six Americans, among those mur-
15 dered;

16 (4) noting that President Bush has offered
17 United States Government assistance, encourages
18 the Government of India to conduct a comprehensive
19 investigation into the attacks and applauds the tone
20 of moderation and restraint exhibited by the Govern-
21 ment of India to date in reaction to these horrific at-
22 tacks;

23 (5) urges the Government of Pakistan to inves-
24 tigate aggressively the possible connection of groups

1 based in Pakistan, including the Lashkar-e-Taiba, to
2 the Mumbai attacks and take definitive action to ap-
3 prehend and detain suspects, and is thus encouraged
4 by the raid on an apparent militant camp on Decem-
5 ber 7, 2008, and the arrest of key suspects;

6 (6) calls upon the Government of Pakistan to
7 take all necessary steps to root out all extremist
8 groups operating on its territory, halt attacks aimed
9 at Pakistan and any other countries, and ensure
10 that no elements of the Government support such
11 groups;

12 (7) strongly encourages President-elect Obama
13 to consider ways in which the United States Govern-
14 ment can bolster counter-terrorism cooperation with
15 the Government of India to ensure that authorities
16 in that country possess all the requisite equipment
17 and training needed to prevent and respond to fu-
18 ture terrorist attacks; and

19 (8) urges bolstered United States efforts to de-
20 velop and implement policies and projects to combat
21 all forms of religious extremism, including anti-Sem-
22 itism, in order to deter the type of targeted attacks
23 like that waged against the Chabad Lubavitch center
24 in Mumbai.

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