

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 273

Condemning the terrorist attacks in Istanbul, Turkey, on November 15 and 20, 2003, expressing condolences to the families of the individuals murdered in the attacks, expressing sympathies to the individuals injured in the attacks, and expressing solidarity with the Republic of Turkey and the United Kingdom in the fight against terrorism.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 24, 2003

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

NOVEMBER 25, 2003

Committee discharged; considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Condemning the terrorist attacks in Istanbul, Turkey, on November 15 and 20, 2003, expressing condolences to the families of the individuals murdered in the attacks, expressing sympathies to the individuals injured in the attacks, and expressing solidarity with the Republic of Turkey and the United Kingdom in the fight against terrorism.

Whereas, in Istanbul, Turkey, on November 15, 2003, two explosions set off minutes apart during Sabbath morning services devastated Neve Shalom, the largest synagogue

in the city, and the Beth Israel synagogue, about 3 miles away from Neve Shalom;

Whereas the casualties of more than 20 people killed and more than 300 people wounded in the bombing attacks on the synagogues included both Muslims and Jews;

Whereas, on November 20, 2003, two bombs exploded in Istanbul at the Consulate of the United Kingdom and the HSBC Bank;

Whereas the casualties of more than 25 people killed and 450 people wounded in the November 20, 2003, bombing attacks included Muslims and Christians, and Turks, British diplomats, and visitors to the Republic of Turkey;

Whereas troops of the United Kingdom are part of the United States-led coalition that liberated Iraq from the regime of Saddam Hussein and are now present in Iraq under the auspices of the United Nations Security Council;

Whereas the acts of murder committed on November 15 and 20, 2003, in Istanbul, Turkey, were cowardly and brutal manifestations of international terrorism;

Whereas the Government of Turkey immediately condemned the terrorist attacks in the strongest possible terms and has vowed to bring the perpetrators to justice at all costs;

Whereas the United States, the United Kingdom, and Turkey equally abhor and denounce these hateful, repugnant, and loathsome acts of terrorism;

Whereas, in light of the escalation of anti-Semitic activities, the safety and security of Jewish people throughout the world is a matter of serious concern;

Whereas, since Turkey cherishes its traditions of hospitality and religious tolerance, and in particular its history of more than 500 years of good relations between Jews and Muslims, the attacks on synagogues, consular premises, and commercial buildings came as a special shock to the people of Turkey and to their friends throughout the world;

Whereas the United States and Turkey are allied by shared values and a common interest in building a stable, peaceful, and prosperous world;

Whereas Turkey, a predominantly Muslim nation with a secular government, has close relations with Israel and is also the only predominantly Muslim member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; and

Whereas the acts of murder committed on November 15 and 20, 2003, demonstrate again that terrorism respects neither boundaries nor borders: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) condemns in the strongest possible terms
3 the terrorist attacks in Istanbul, Turkey, on Novem-
4 ber 15 and 20, 2003;

5 (2) expresses its condolences to the families of
6 the individuals murdered in the terrorist attacks, ex-
7 presses its sympathies to the individuals injured in
8 the attacks, and conveys its hope for the rapid and
9 complete recovery of all such injured individuals;

10 (3) expresses its condolences to the people and
11 the governments of the Republic of Turkey and the

1 United Kingdom over the losses they suffered in
2 these attacks; and

3 (4) expresses its solidarity with the United
4 Kingdom, Turkey, and all other countries that stand
5 united against terrorism and work together to bring
6 to justice the perpetrators of these and other ter-
7 rorist attacks.

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