



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

December 10, 2002

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to urge your immediate action to stop U.S. companies from running paid advertisements on Al Manar, a TV station financed and operated by Hezbollah.

As reported in the October 13, 2002, L.A. Times Op-Ed, "Hezbollah Hate with a U.S. Link," subsidiaries of U.S. companies have been paying for airtime to show commercials on Al Manar TV programs broadcast in Southern Lebanon and around the world via satellite. The revelation is disturbing considering that U.S. counterterrorism laws, based in the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 (P.L.104-132), Executive Order 13224, and Executive Order 12947, expressly prohibit financial transactions or the provision of material support to any group designated by the State Department as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

As you know, Hezbollah is one of the fiercest terrorist networks in the world. Supported by Iran and based in Lebanon, the group is responsible for the murder of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut that killed 241 Americans in 1982, the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut that killed 12 Americans in 1984, the attack on the Israeli Embassy and Jewish cultural center in Buenos Aires that killed 85 people in 1994, and it is a primary sponsor of the ongoing terrorist campaign against Israel.

The Al Manar news channel is a 24-hour stream of programming that glorifies terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians, and uses its footage of suicide murders and guerilla rocket assaults to recruit new militants. Paid advertisements help the station finance its growing satellite operations to disseminate Hezbollah propaganda and foment anti-Israel, anti-Western, and anti-Semitic violence among Muslims in Europe, Palestinian areas, and across the Arab world.

It is distressing that Al-Manar has not been added to the terrorism sanctions list monitored by the U.S. Treasury Department Office of Foreign Assets Controls. U.S. companies should not be in a position to contribute to the promotion of Hezbollah's message and operations. We call upon the Administration to thoroughly investigate the connection between Al Manar and Hezbollah and promptly take all measures necessary to ensure that U.S. anti-terrorism laws are strictly enforced.

We look forward to hearing from you about this important issue.

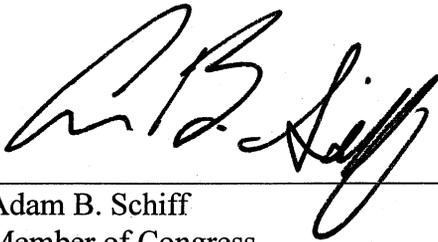
Sincerely,

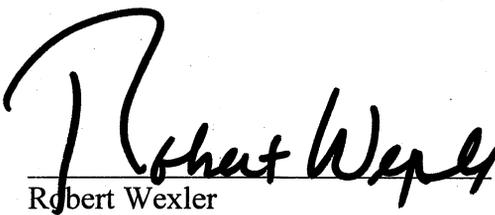

Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress

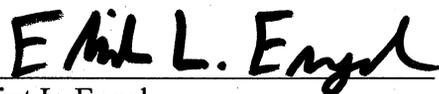

Martin Frost
Member of Congress

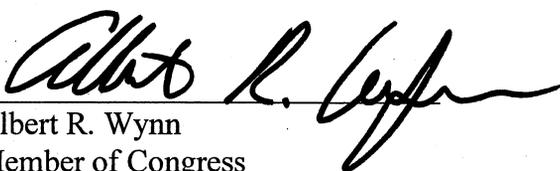

Gary L. Ackerman
Member of Congress


Barney Frank
Member of Congress


Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

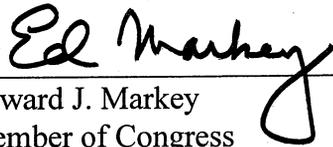

Robert Wexler
Member of Congress


Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress


Albert R. Wynn
Member of Congress


Steve Israel
Member of Congress


Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress



Anthony Weiner
Member of Congress



Tom Lantos
Member of Congress



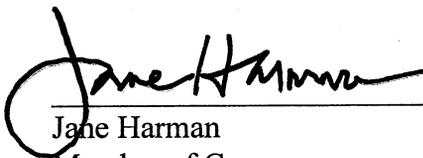
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



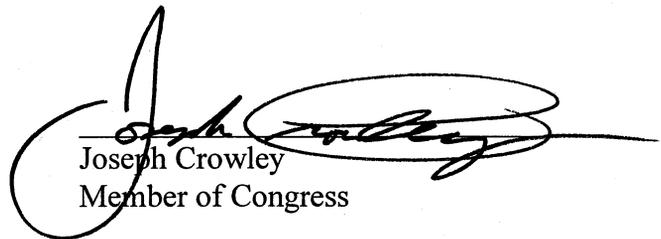
Lynn Woolsey
Member of Congress



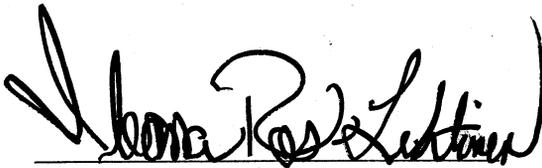
David Wu
Member of Congress



Jane Harman
Member of Congress



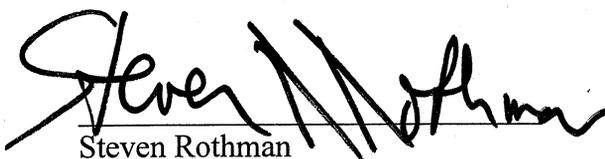
Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



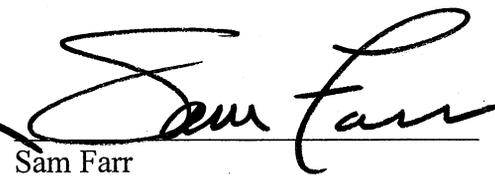
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress



Howard L. Berman
Member of Congress



Steven Rothman
Member of Congress



Sam Farr
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Lloyd Doggett in black ink, featuring a large, stylized 'L' and 'D'.

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Peter Deutsch in black ink, featuring a large, stylized 'P' and 'D'.

Peter Deutsch
Member of Congress

List of signatures on December 10, 2002 Al Manar letter to President Bush

1. Henry A. Waxman
2. Martin Frost
3. Gary L. Ackerman
4. Barney Frank
5. Adam B. Schiff
6. Robert Wexler
7. Eliot L. Engel
8. Albert R. Wynn
9. Steve Israel
10. Carolyn B. Maloney
11. Edward J. Markey
12. Anthony Weiner
13. Tom Lantos
14. Eleanor Homes Norton
15. Lynn Woolsey
16. David Wu
17. Jane Harman
18. Joseph Crowley
19. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
20. Howard L. Berman
21. Steven R. Rothman
22. Sam Farr
23. Lloyd Doggett
24. Peter Deutsch