

1 August 1995

Mr. Orrin Hatch,

Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee Fax: 001-202-224-6331

Sir,

We have been advised to approach you on the highly urgent matter of the detention by the U.S. authorities of Dr. Musa Abu Marzuq, Head of Hamas Political Bureau. He was arrested on 25 July upon his arrival in New York's JFK airport on a private, perfectly legal, visit in the company of his family.

The detention of Dr. Abu Marzuq has been a source of concern for us and for many Arabs and Muslims around the world. The adoption of what can only be described as delaying tactics by the U.S. authorities in dealing with the matter is a clear indication that the entire measure has been motivated by political rather than legal considerations. This has been viewed as a deliberate attempt by the U.S. administration to buy time in order to afford certain foreign circles, primarily the Israelis, the opportunity to forge false charges against Dr. Abu Marzuq prior to applying for his extradition.

The continued detention or the handing over of Dr. Abu Marzuq to the Israelis will provoke a wave of outrage against the United States in various parts of the Arab and Muslims world. Serious repercussions could ensue as a result.

We hope that you will kindly consider intervenining with the U.S. authorities and urge popular and official circles in the United States to support the campaign for the immediate release of Dr. Abu Marzuq, who is a diabetic and in need of special medical attention. We wish that through your good offices, Dr. Abu Marzuq will be released and allowed to leave peacefully to a country of his own choice.

Ibrahim Ghousbeh

Hamas Spokesman c/o Tel: (962) 6- 6999997 Fax. (962) 6-698997 Amaa : fordar

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