

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENT AND
PUBLIC WORKS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 22, 2011

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

As a result of the leadership displayed by you and President Obama, our allies, and the people of Libya, Muammar Qaddafi's regime is falling. At the time of this writing, Col. Qaddafi has not been apprehended, but his capture and extradition to the International Criminal Court (ICC) remains a possibility. In my view, should Col. Qaddafi be prosecuted in the ICC, the charges must include his ordering of the Pan Am 103 and La Belle discotheque terror attacks, which killed 191 Americans.

The bombing of Pan Am 103 in 1989 was a brutal act of terrorism that resulted in the deaths of 270 people, including 189 Americans. As you noted in March 2011, former Qaddafi officials have continued to make statements indicating that Qaddafi himself ordered the bombing of Pan Am 103. Qaddafi's agents also committed the 1986 bombing of the La Belle discotheque in Berlin that killed two U.S. servicemembers.

As you know, the ICC issued arrest warrants for Muammar Qaddafi, his son Saif al-Islam Qaddafi, and Libya's intelligence chief Abdullah al-Senussi for crimes against humanity allegedly committed against civilians in Libya since February 15, 2011. I understand that in order for the ICC to gain jurisdiction to prosecute crimes perpetrated by the Qaddafi regime prior to February 15, 2011 the Transitional National Council (TNC) in Libya must agree. I strongly urge you to push TNC officials for this expansion of jurisdiction.

I am pleased that you have also committed to working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Attorney General Eric Holder to advance our U.S. criminal investigation of Col. Qaddafi. However, I believe that all avenues for accountability must be pursued, including the ICC.

Justice for the U.S. victims of terrorist attacks committed by Qaddafi and his regime must remain a top priority for our country. Should Qaddafi be arrested and sent to the ICC, he must stand trial for his terrible crimes against our fellow citizens.

Sincerely,

