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Should the United States harbor an international terrorist?

Open letter to the families of the victims of 9/11

On September 11, 2001, while we looked on with horror at the images of the terrorist attack on the Twin Towers in New York, the sorrow we felt for you overwhelmed our families, as it did 25 years ago.

Your tragedy revived our most devastating memories. The anguish and the wait for a phone call, the clinging hope for a report of possible survivors; the terrible blow of the confirmed dead; the desperate search for a trace to identify our loved ones among the remains; the void created by their absence; the incurable feeling of

It was a brutal crime that forever deprived 73 families of our happiness. We've been destroyed by the pain of our mourning, and a yearning for justice that is still out of reach.

Luis Posada Carriles and Orlando Bosch Avila, two of the most dangerous terrorists of the western hemisphere, are responsible for this monstrous act known as the

"Many innocent victims who happened to be Cuban died at the hands of Posada, in a crime similar to that which killed innocent American victims on September 11, 2001."

— Letter addressed to President George W. Bush by 20 members of the US Congress on May 17th, 2005

had granted protection to those responsible for the brutal attacks on September 11, to prevent them from being duly tried.

As with yourselves, the terrorists stole from us the most precious thing in our lives, our loved ones. Being deprived of them has created in us a strong desire for justice, and to assure that other families not suffer the same tragedy.



knowing everything we were supposed to do together in the future ...

October 6, 1976 was our September 11. On that date, a Cubana Airlines jetliner exploded in mid-flight close to the coast of Barbados. It was the first terrorist act against a civilian plane in this hemisphere, and cost the lives of 73 passengers and crew members.

That day, many of us awaited our sons and daughters, some teenagers, who were coming home from winning the youth championship in fencing in Caracas, Venezuela. Those who bid them farewell at the Caracas airport have told us that they boarded the plane with their medals on their necks and with a joy that was contagious to the rest of the passengers. One of them, Nancy, 23 years old, champion fencer with an individual gold medal, was pregnant. The rest of us awaited our fathers, wives and husbands, brothers and sisters...

All of them died without knowing who condemned them to death and why. During all these years, their families could not help but try to imagine what they experienced after the two explosions, in the midst of the fire. From the depths of the sea only a few unrecognizable remains were recovered. Nothing more.



"... After Bosch's arrival in Caracas in September he stated during a fundraising dinner that 'Now that our organization has come out of the Letelier job looking good, we are going to try something else.' A few days later, Posada allegedly said, 'We are going to hit a Cuban airliner' and 'Orlando [Bosch] has the details.'"

—10/18/76 first report to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger from the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research on the bombing of Cubana flight 455
posted by the National Security Archive on 5/17/05.

Barbados crime, as well as other crimes. They have shamelessly acknowledged the crimes without remorse.

Currently, Bosch walks the streets of Miami a free man, and Luis Posada Carriles has recently arrived, illegally, in the United States, where he hopes the U.S. government will harbor him.

The fact that harboring Posada could be considered has caused us to think about the feelings you would have if another country

We know that no one can fully understand our feelings the way you would. Please join with us in our demand. Help us keep a terrorist like Luis Posada Carriles, admitted murderer, from gaining protection and impunity in the country where so many people still cry for the victims of the terrorist act that brought down the Twin Towers on September 11, four years ago.

*Committee of Families of the Victims
of the Cuban Airliner Bombing in Barbados*

- NO SAFE HARBOR FOR POSADA - What You Can Do to Help

- Write President Bush and Congress demanding: No safe harbor for Luis Posada Carriles!
- Forward this appeal to friends or family members and urge them to support our efforts to bring to justice an international terrorist.
- Help keep the pressure up to make sure that Posada is tried for his crimes.

www.FamiliesForJustice.cu

Another Victim of Posada Carriles

"Mr. Posada proudly admitted authorship of the hotel bomb attacks (against Cuba) last year. With a rueful chuckle, Mr. Posada described the Italian tourist's death (Fabio DiCelmo) as a freak accident, but he declared that he had clear conscience, saying 'I sleep like a baby.' (...) That Italian was sitting in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Article by Ann Louise Bardach and Larry Rohter,
The New York Times, July 12, 1998