

Mr. President,

Hamas, the terrorist group that rules Gaza with severe brutality, brags — in Arabic — about the true nature of the events happening at the fence between Gaza and Israel. They acknowledge that many, indeed most, of the dead are Hamas terrorists. They take video of themselves breaching the fence with machetes yelling about slaughtering the Jews — Jews who live hundreds of meters away from the fence in peaceful farming communities in Israel.

The rest of the world, however, is fed outright lies by Hamas, and based on the proceedings today, it is clear that many in the international community continue to make the very harmful mistake of believing the lies.

Israel is faced with a dangerous enemy in Hamas, one that hides behind Palestinian civilians in order to attack Israelis. These so-called protests were never meant to be peaceful. They were intended to be a violent series of riots that, Hamas hoped could be exploited to send terrorists streaming into Israel to carry out mass attacks and kidnappings.

If anything is to be condemned here today, it should be Hamas's senseless provocations, not Israel's restrained and necessary response to the threat posed by Hamas terrorists on the border.

Thank you, Mr. President.