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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3801

July 22, 2014

Secretary John Kerry United States Department of State 2201 C St. NW Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry,

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I write to you today to express great concern over the recent discovery of 20 missiles at a United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) school on July 14, 2014, and the organization's continued ties with the known terrorist group Hamas.

As you are aware, though UNRWA was quick to condemn the storage of weapons in its facility, the organization chose to hand these rockets over to the local police force instead of turning them over to a third party or arranging for their disposal. These local authorities, which were established by Hamas, are believed to still be under the terrorist group's control. What's more, UNRWA refuses to release photos from this incident, stating that any photographic material is needed for their own internal investigation. The location and status of these missiles is now unknown.

This is not the first time that UNRWA has demonstrated a lack of impartiality. UNRWA does not screen its employees for ties to Hamas, Hezbollah, or other known terrorist groups in the region. Nor did the organization seem to be bothered in 2012 when its employees elected candidates affiliated with Hamas to 25 out of 27 seats on a union board responsible for representing ten thousand UNRWA workers. It is well established that UNRWA schools use textbooks that contain anti-Israel and anti-Semitic content, and the allegations that these schools and other UNRWA facilities are being used as launch pads for rockets are hard to ignore.

The United States is the largest single-state donor to UNRWA, having provided \$4.9 billion since the organization's inception in 1950. In light of the July 14<sup>th</sup> incident, I am requesting your immediate investigation into UNRWA's continued cooperation and relationship with Hamas. It is unacceptable that U.S. contributions are going to an organization that may have willingly handed over weapons to a known terrorist organization.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. Should you need further information, please contact Ashley Shillingsburg in my office at Ashley.Shillingsburg@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Brady Member of Congress