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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

June 24, 2008

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The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
Secretary of State
2201 C St NW Ste 7276
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Dear Secretary Rice:

I am writing to express my ongoing concern regarding media reports of violent and intolerant language in the textbooks used at the two Islamic Saudi Academy (ISA) campuses in Virginia. As you may know, the United States Commission on Religious Freedom (USCIRF) recently issued a report confirming that the ISA textbooks contained material inciting violence and intolerance.

It is my understanding that the State Department, under the care of Ambassador John Hanford, possesses copies of all the textbooks used at the ISA. I respectfully ask that the State Department provide a complete English translation of the textbooks and issue an official assesment of the material contained in these books.

It is well known that Saudi Arabia promotes the radical Wahhabi interpretation of Islam within its own borders and has financed radical clerics abroad. Lawrence Wright's Pulitzer Prize winning book, The Looming Tower, points out that "Saudi Arabia, which constitutes only 1 percent of the world's Muslim population...supports 90 percent of the expenses of the entire faith," including "thousands of religious schools around the globe, staffed with Wahhabi imams and teachers." The ISA is funded through the Saudi government, which also funds radical madrassas along the turbulent Pakistani borders.

The United States government owes it to those who are concerned and to the parents and students at the ISA to thoroughly examine this matter and find out the truth about the content of the textbooks in question. Your personal attention is appreciated. Please keep me informed of any developments.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

*THE STATE
DEPARTMENT IS
NOT DOING
ITS DUTY.*

FRW:eh