

Open letter to
Dr. Gennady Frazer
U.S Assistant Secretary of State
Washington, DC

Dear Madame Secretary,

The Eritrean People's Movement (EPM) seizes this opportunity to support your press conference of the 17th of August 2007 to put the Eritrean regime in its rightful place, "state sponsors terror". You know and we know that the Eritrean regime is the prime cause of instability in the horn of Africa. It has been arming and training any rebel group that opposes neighboring governments. In the case of Somalia, it is proven beyond the shade of doubt that it has been helping the extremist groups by all means. That there are Eritrean officers who are captured in the war in Somalia is incontrovertible evidence how much the Eritrean regime is involved in the Somali debacle. Therefore, to put the regime in Asmara in the list of state sponsors terrorism is long over due.

Dear Madame Secretary,

There are misplaced concerns from some Eritreans that if Eritrea is listed as state sponsors terrorism, the dear economic consequences will harm the Eritrean people not the rogue regime. EPM believes to the contrary. To prove such concerns are baseless and quite out of context, let's see briefly facts in the ground:-

- 1. Import and export trade is completely monopolized by the government.
- 2. Wholesale and retail business is monopolized by the government.
- 3. All financial institutions including money transfer are monopolized by the government.
- 4. Construction industry is now completely monopolized by the state.
- 5. Land, sea and air transport is a monopoly of the state.
- 6. Land is under state ownership.
- 7. All farmers are now obliged to hand over their produce to the government.
- 8. The entire productive force has been kept hostage in the military working in government projects without any pay for the last ten years. This is nothing but slavery.

This misguided and collectivist economic policy of the rogue regime has turned our people in to slaves and beggars. Therefore, the Eritrean people have nothing to loose but their chains when the government of Eritrea is listed as state sponsors terror.

Dear Madame Secretary,

We want also to bring to your attention the death of five members of the "Courageous G-15", four journalists and two middle level government officials who were supporters of the democratic movement. The cause of their death is physical and mental torture. Therefore, the Eritrean People's Movement (EPM) accuses the Eritrean government of intentional man slaughter.

Dear Madame Secretary,

The victims are the following:-

| <u>Name</u> | Place of death | Date of death |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Mr. Mahmud Sherifo (Minister of Local government) 2003 | Embatkala | 5 June |
| 2. General Ogbe Abraha (Chief of staff of the Eritrean Armed forces) | Embatkala | 13 July 2002 |
| 3. Mr. Salih Kekia (Minister of Transport and Communication) | Era'ero | 9 June 2003 |
| 4. Mrs. Aster Fesehatsion (Head of Social Affairs of Anseba Zone) | Era'ero | 13 June 2003 |
| 5. Ambassador Hamd Himd (Head of the Middle East Desk in the Foreign Ministry) 2003 | Era'ero | 22 September |
| 6. Mr. Fesehaye Estifanos (Joshua) (Journalist and play Wright) 2002 | Embatkala | 13 October |
| 7. Mr Yosuf Mohammed Ali (Journalist) | Era'ero | 13 June 2003 |
| 8. Mr. Sied Abdelkadir (Journalist) 2005 | Era'ero | 3 March |
| 9. Mr. Medhanie Haile (Journalist) | Era'ero | 2 July 2006 |
| 10. Mr. Sahle Tsegazeab (Third man in the Attorney General's Office) 2005 | Era'ero | 1 January |
| 11. Mr. Teclegiorgis Hagos Kismu (Administrator of Sub-Tserona Zone) 2004 | Era'ero | 16 March |

Dear Madame Secretary,

EPM appeals and pleads to the American government to deal with the criminal regime in Asmara firmly and resolutely for the sake of justice. Gone are the days of appeasing the ruling clique in Asmara.

Eritrean People's Movement Office of the Chairman 3 September 2007