



Statement by Senator Dianne Feinstein  
On the Violence in the Middle East

July 13, 2006

**Washington, DC** – U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) today issued the following statement:

“By initiating a campaign to kidnap Israeli soldiers and launch rocket attacks inside Israel, Hamas and Hezbollah, with assistance from Syria and Iran, threaten to destabilize the Middle East and trigger a wider conflict. Like any country, Israel has the right and the obligation to defend its citizens. The latest round of violence only underscores the need for high-level and sustained American diplomacy that has been sorely lacking.”

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