"Must be brought to justice in the United States"

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Vern Buchanan, R-Fla., today called for the extradition of Abdel Baset al-Megrahi, the convicted perpetrator of the 1988 Pan Am 103 bombing which claimed 270 lives, most of which were Americans.

In a letter sent to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Buchanan writes that al-Megrahi, who has spent the past two years serving as a public relations figure for the Qaddafi regime in Libya, must be secured and brought to justice in the United States.

"He has been paraded around as a hero," wrote Buchanan. "This is unacceptable. He must be extradited to the United States to pay for the deaths of the 270 victims of Pan Am 103."

Scotland's government freed al-Megrahi on Aug. 20, 2009, after prison doctors claimed he had only three months to live.

See copy of Buchanan's letter below:

The Honorable Hillary Clinton

Secretary

Department of State

2201 C St., NW

Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

I am writing to you to secure the extradition of Abdel Baset al-Megrahi, the convicted perpetrator of the 1988 Pan Am 103 bombing, which claimed 270 lives most of which were Americans. I believe as the Qaddafi regime falls in Libya, it is imperative you work with the new government to secure this criminal and have him brought to justice in the United States.

He was freed on Aug. 20, 2009, after prison doctors claimed he had only three months to live. Two years later he is still alive, and last month he appeared at a televised rally in Tripoli alongside Muammar Qaddafi.

For the past two years, al-Megrahi has served as a public relations tool for the Qaddafi regime. He has been paraded around as a hero. This is unacceptable.

Al-Megrahi, a former Libyan intelligence officer, should not have been released. He must be extradited to the United States to pay for the deaths of the 270 victims of Pan Am 103.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Vern Buchanan

Member of Congress