

HAMAS LEADER

Deport him, but not to Israel

Mousa Abu Marzuk heads the political division of the Islamic group Hamas. Because Hamas is a terrorist organization, and Mr. Marzuk is one of its chief organizers, he deserves to be deported and permanently barred from entering the United States.

Last week, Mr. Marzuk was detained by immigration authorities at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City when his name was found to be on the immigration service's list of suspected terrorists. While it is true that Hamas runs schools and medical clinics in Gaza, the evidence is overwhelming that it also habitually slaughters innocent people and blows things up.

According to the *Washington Post*, Mr. Marzuk is the principal organizer of Hamas' international fund-raising and recruiting network. And he is the organization's chief link to Iranian leaders, who are believed to have provided financial support to Hamas' terrorist activities. Without their financing, Hamas would not be a major terrorist threat. The organization has openly stated its dedication to the destruction of Israel and the creation of an Islamic state in its place, and Mr. Marzuk has publicly taken credit on

behalf of Hamas for attacks on Israelis.

As a practical matter, U.S. officials believe it is unlikely that Israel will follow up on its request to have Mr. Marzuk extradited to Israel. In any event, the federal immigration service should do its utmost to have Mr. Marzuk declared an "excludable alien." Mr. Marzuk should be deported, not extradited.

Sadly, Arab and Islamic organizations in America are perceiving the action against Mr. Marzuk as anti-Islam and anti-Arab. But combating the presence of fund-raisers and recruiters for a bloody terrorist organization is nothing of the kind. Instead, it is an action on behalf of all Americans, including those of Arab descent and those who practice the Islamic faith.

As the Oklahoma City bombing demonstrates, the home-grown variety of terrorist is quite capable of creating problems without adding to their number from abroad. Interestingly, the FBI has noted in the past that cells of the Hamas organization are known to be operating even in North Texas. Should the government prove itself unable to deport Mr. Marzuk, the message will be clear: America is an easy refuge for the world's persecuted terrorists.

DRUG TREATMENT

Funding cutoff is too abrupt and disruptive

State conservators gave no warning before they canceled funding for 35 drug treatment groups around the state. On July 20, the groups had funding; on July 21, they didn't. The affected groups had no time to seek alternative funding, counsel clients or warn their staffs.

Seven Dallas-area organizations lost funding. These groups — which include the Ethel Daniels Foundation, Nexus and the New Place — provide the majority of residential and outpatient treatment slots for indigent adults in Dallas. Between 500 and 1,000 adults and adolescents in the Dallas area will be affected by the funding suspension, local drug treatment workers say.

Conservators, who assumed control of the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse this spring, say these providers misused funds. Yet the state officials have not clarified which groups face what sort of allegations.

Conservator Michael Weiss said some providers used unverifiable or "very, very inaccurate cost reporting." The groups might

conservators don't think the problem resulted from "criminal malfeasance."

By acting swiftly and decisively, conservators have shown they take their duties seriously. Their latest move may have been unnecessarily harsh, however — particularly if most providers haven't committed criminal violations.

Several Dallas and Houston drug treatment workers say the funding suspension cripples their ability to refer and treat clients. State officials maintain that alternative providers have the capacity to pick up any clients who cannot be helped by the 35 suspended agencies. This apparent discrepancy between state and local estimates is troubling.

It's understandable that conservators feel business cannot continue until funds are properly accounted for. But a more prudent approach might have been to maintain interim funding while working with providers to correct noncriminal problems. SW128 0000245

There's no doubt conservators must penetrate the management mire at the alcohol

GOVERNMENT

EXHIBIT

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U.S. v. HLF, et al.