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*The Institute for Public Affairs is the non-partisan public policy research and advocacy center of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, the nation's largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella organization founded in 1898.*

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March 12, 2012

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
Washington, DC  
by electronic mail

Dear President Obama,

We hope this letter finds you well.

As recently as last week, you publicly spoke of your unshakable commitment to the security of the State of Israel and your Administration's proactive efforts to strengthen that security. Among those efforts, you cited the financial support the United States has provided for Israel's "Iron Dome" missile defense system.

In the space of but a few days that have passed since your statements, we now see terrorists in the Gaza Strip launching scores of rockets at innocent Israeli communities forcing schools to close and men, women and children to spend the day crouching in fear near bomb shelters. Thankfully, the Iron Dome has performed remarkably well and, to date, prevented civilian casualties from the terrorists' attacks. We write to express our appreciation to your Administration for providing the material support that is saving lives today.

Last week, Mr. President, you also strongly endorsed the State of Israel's sovereign right of self defense. As we watch on with concern in our eyes and prayers in our hearts for the success of the Israel Defense Forces as they act to defend the innocent, we express our appreciation for your Administration's call for the rocket attacks to cease and anticipate your support for Israel's actions.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Simcha Katz*  
*President*

*Yehuda Neuberger*  
*Chair, Public Policy*

*Rabbi Steven Burg*  
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