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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL URGES VIGILANCE AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS
EROSIONS IN U.S. FOLLOWING TERRORIST ATTACKS

(WASHINGTON) — Amnesty International USA (AIUSA) today called on the US government and
individual Americans to uphold and respect human rights protections for all individuals and groups of
people as our nation seeks justice for the abhorrent terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

“Amnesty International condemns the original attacks as a massive human rights violation,” said
William F. Schulz, Executive Director of Amnesty International USA. “We also firmly oppose the
senseless violence against innocent Arab-Americans, Muslim-Americans and others who are being
wrongly scapegoated. Americans must seek justice through legitimate avenues, not vengeance on the
streets.”

As Congress and the President negotiate anti-terrorism legislation, Amnesty International is urging
them to ensure that proposed new security measures do not restrict important rights. The organization
is particularly concerned with several provisions in the Mobilization Against Terrorism Act (MATA)
that would expand the use of the death penalty and limit the rights of immigrants.

“Amnesty International is concerned that the MATA would expand the application of the federal death
penalty, which we oppose in all instances,” said Schulz. “We’re also disturbed that the provisions on
detention and deportation of immigrants would be a sharp departure from current protections.”

Specifically, Amnesty International is concerned about changes that would permit immigrants, even if
they reside in the United States legally, to be detained and deported without any judicial review, and
without any obligation on the part of the US government to inform those detained of the charges
against them, let alone the evidence that substantiates those charges.

“The nation must guard against responding to terrorists by eroding human rights protections,” Schulz
concluded.

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