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Caeciliana Pearlman

January 24, 1974

Senator Claiborne Pell
325 Old Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Pell:

I submit, by direction of the City Council, the accompanying duly certified copy of Resolution No. 29, approved January 21, 1974, the same being self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

Vincent Vespia
City Clerk of Providence

VV:pf

Enclosure

January 24, 1974

Senator John O. Pastore
3215 New Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Pastore:

I submit, by direction of the City Council, the accompanying duly certified copy of Resolution No. 29, approved January 21, 1974, the same being self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

Vincent Vespia
City Clerk of Providence

VV:pf

Enclosure

January 24, 1974

Congressman Robert O. Tiernan
417 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Tiernan:

I submit, by direction of the City Council, the accompanying duly certified copy of Resolution No. 29, approved January 21, 1974, the same being self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

Vincent Vespia
City Clerk of Providence

VV:pf

Enclosure

January 24, 1974

Congressman Fernand J. St. Germain
2136 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman St. Germain:

I submit, by direction of the City Council, the accompanying duly certified copy of Resolution No. 29, approved January 21, 1974, the same being self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

Vincent Vespia
City Clerk of Providence

VV:pf

Enclosure

January 24, 1974

Secretary of State, Henry A. Kissinger
Department of State
2201 C Street
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary of State:

I submit, by direction of the City Council, the accompanying duly certified copy of Resolution No. 29, Approved January 21, 1974, the same being self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

Vincent Vespia
City Clerk of Providence

VV:pf

Enclosure



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 1, 1974

Dear Fellow American:

Secretary Kissinger has asked me to reply to your communication concerning Israeli prisoners-of-war in Arab countries.

We share the deep concern of many of you about the safety and humane treatment of Israeli POW's. Our recent experience with POW's in Viet-Nam makes us especially sympathetic to any efforts to hasten the release of prisoners. We have urged all parties to the October War to comply with the Geneva Convention governing the treatment of war prisoners and to make available lists of prisoners. Our efforts in effecting a prisoner exchange between Israel and Egypt have been very successful.

Syria, however, has taken the position that it will not release the names of the Israeli prisoners of war it holds until Israel complies with the Geneva Convention on occupied territories and with UN Security Council Resolution 340 which calls for a return to the lines of October 22 when the initial cease-fire resolution was passed. The United States has done everything it can, and will continue to do so on behalf of the POW's. We have talked with the Soviet Union, with the Egyptians and with the Syrians to try to find a way to reconcile these competing claims. We are hopeful that the prisoner-of-war issues in Syria will be resolved through such diplomatic contacts and through our efforts toward a general settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol C. Laise".

Carol C. Laise
Assistant Secretary
for Public Affairs

January 24, 1974

President Richard M. Nixon
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I submit, by direction of the City Council, the accompanying duly certified copy of Resolution No. 29, approved January 21, 1974, the same being self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

Vincent Vespia
City Clerk of Providence

VV:pf

Enclosure

MELVIN PRICE, ILL.,
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Congress of the United States

JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 30, 1974

Mr. Vincent Vespia
City Clerk of Providence
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

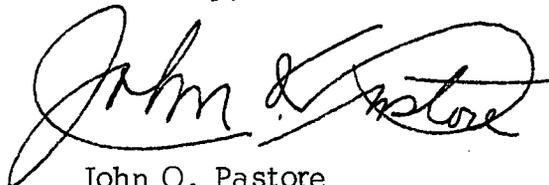
Dear Mr. Vespia:

Thank you for your letter of January 24 and for sending to me a certified copy of the resolution of the City Council of the City of Providence concerning the plight of Israeli soldiers held prisoners of war by Syria.

I am in complete sympathy with the resolution and, in fact, I have contacted our State Department to see what can be done to expedite the return of these Israeli prisoners to their homes.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



John O. Pastore
United States Senator

JOP:mtl

ROBERT O. TIERNAN
2ND DISTRICT, RHODE ISLAND

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
417 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

January 30, 1974

Mr. Vincent Vespia
City Clerk
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island
02903

Dear Vinnie:

Thank you for sending along to me copies of Resolutions No. 29 and 30.

I appreciate the humanitarian feelings of the Council and assure you that I am in agreement with the views expressed and will act accordingly.

Sincerely,



ROBERT O. TIERNAN
Member of Congress

T/lka

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

CARL MARCY, CHIEF OF STAFF
ARTHUR M. KUHL, CHIEF CLERK

February 4, 1974

Mr. Vincent Vespia
City Clerk of Providence
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

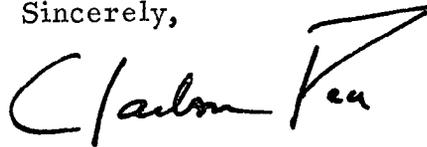
Dear Mr. Vespia:

Thank you for forwarding a copy of the Resolution adopted by the Providence City Council regarding Israeli prisoners held by the Syrian Government.

I share the concern of the City Council. The main problem is to determine the most effective way of exerting pressure in a situation where the United States has no diplomatic relations with Syria and only limited economic ties. I know that Secretary Kissinger is fully aware of the urgency of the problem and is applying his energetic diplomacy in finding a solution. I certainly will do everything I can to help.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,



Claiborne Pell

FERNAND J. ST GERMAIN
1ST DISTRICT, RHODE ISLAND

2136 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BLDG.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

200 JOHN E. FOGARTY BUILDING
PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02903
TEL.: 528-4323

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
SMALL BUSINESS

January 31, 1974

Mr. Vincent Vespia
City Clerk of Providence
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Mr. Vespia:

Thank you for taking the time to send me a copy of the Resolution adopted by your City Council with regard to the treatment of Israeli Prisoners of War by the Syrian Nation.

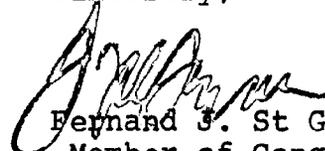
For Americans the memory of our POW's held in North Vietnam prison camps is still a fresh and bitter memory. We are too familiar with the years of suffering, the inhumane treatment, and in many cases, the refusal to even disclose the names of prisoners so that their families would know that they were still alive.

That period of darkness, which Americans can never forget, has now been thrust upon the people of Israel by the barbaric behavior of the Syrian government. That government obstinately persists in holding over 100 Israeli prisoners of war, and, in gross violation of the Geneva Conventions, we hear that the Syrians have tortured and murdered 42 other captives.

It is too much to find words to comment on such despicable acts. We can only hope and pray that the protests and outcries from people around the world will bring the Syrians sufficiently to their senses so that they will release their remaining Israeli captives unharmed.

Meanwhile my heart goes out in deep sympathy to the friends and families of the Israeli POW's. And, joining with the City of Providence, I want to associate myself fully with your position.

Sincerely,


Fernand J. St Germain
Member of Congress

FJStG:bWh