



City of Cambridge

50.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 15, 1997

VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

WHEREAS: On January 11, 1996, Lori Berenson, an American citizen and former resident of Cambridge was sentenced to life in prison by a secret Peruvian military tribunal in violation of international law; and

WHEREAS: Lori Berenson was denied a fair public trial by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal, as required by Article 14 of the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, ratified by Peru on April 28, 1978; and

WHEREAS: The Peruvian anti-terrorism laws afford no due process and have been strongly criticized by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and other human rights organizations; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Berenson is living in excessively harsh conditions in a Peruvian prison which endangers her health and allows her extremely limited access to her family and legal counsel; and

WHEREAS: Fifty-two members of the United States Senate, including Senators Kennedy and Kerry, and a near majority of the House of Representatives, including the entire Massachusetts delegation, have sent a letter to the Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright urging her to do all within her power to impress upon the Peruvian government the importance of providing an open trial in a civilian court for Ms. Berenson; and

WHEREAS: The lack of due process at Ms. Berenson's trial leaves the question of her involvement in illegal activity unanswered and she must be presumed innocent until proven guilty; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby joins the entire Massachusetts Congressional delegation and fifty-two United States Senators in calling on Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright to do all within her power to impress upon the Peruvian Government the importance of providing Lori Berenson an open and fair proceeding in a civilian court without further delay; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk send suitable copies of said resolution to the Secretary of State, Mr. and Mrs. Mark and Rhoda Berenson and Lori Berenson, Yanamayo Prison, Puno, Peru.

In City Council December 15, 1997.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Councillor Toomey recorded as Present.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Born
Triante

50.

Whereas, on January 11, 1996, Lori Berenson, an American citizen and former resident of Cambridge, was sentenced to life in prison by a secret Peruvian military tribunal in violation of international law;

Whereas, Lori Berenson was denied a fair public trial by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal, as required by Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by Peru on April 28, 1978;

Whereas, the Peruvian anti-terrorism laws afford no due process and have been strongly criticized by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and other human rights organizations;

Whereas, Ms. Berenson is living in excessively harsh conditions in a Peruvian prison which endangers her health and allows her extremely limited access to her family and legal counsel;

Whereas, fifty-two members of the United States Senate, including Senators Kennedy and Kerry, and a near majority of the House of Representatives, including the entire Massachusetts delegation, have sent a letter to the Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright urging her to do all within her power to impress upon the Peruvian government the importance of providing an open trial in a civilian court for Ms. Berenson;

Whereas, the lack of due process at Ms. Berenson's trial leaves the question of her involvement in illegal activity unanswered and she must be presumed innocent until proven guilty; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the City Council hereby joins the entire Massachusetts Congressional delegation and fifty-two United States Senators in calling on Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to do all within her power to impress upon the Peruvian Government the importance of providing Lori Berenson an open and fair proceeding in a civilian court without further delay; and further that the City Clerk send suitable copies of said resolution to the Secretary of State, Mr. and Mrs. Mark and Rhoda Berenson and Lori Berenson, Yanamayo Prison, Puno, Peru

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

97 DEC 11 PM 3:19

CAMBRIDGE MA.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

~~October 20, 1997~~

(dated in November)

The Honorable Madeleine K. Albright
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Madam Secretary:

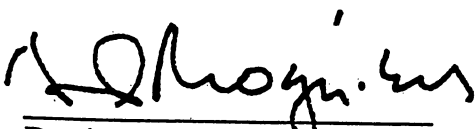
On January 11, 1996, Lori Berenson, an American citizen, was sentenced to life in prison by a secret Peruvian military tribunal in violation of international law. Specifically, she was denied a fair public trial by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal, as required by Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by Peru on April 28, 1978. The Peruvian anti-terrorism laws afford no due process and have been strongly criticized by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and other human rights organizations.

Last summer, 20 Senators and 89 Representatives wrote to Peruvian President Fujimori, asking him to take steps to ensure that Ms. Berenson be retried before a civilian court which upholds internationally recognized rights of due process, but have never received a reply. Ms. Berenson is living in excessively harsh conditions in a Peruvian prison which endangers her health and allows her extremely limited access to her family and legal counsel.

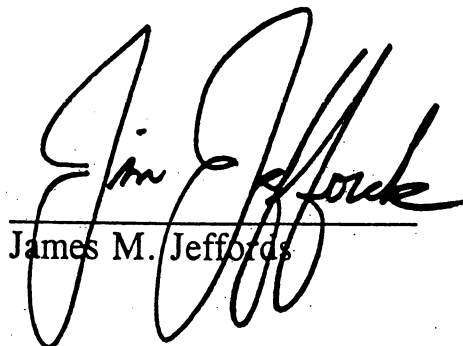
The lack of due process at Ms. Berenson's trial leaves the question of her involvement in illegal activity unanswered and she must be presumed innocent until proven guilty. While we make no claims concerning Ms. Berenson's alleged guilt, we ask that you do all within your power to impress upon the Peruvian government the importance of providing her an open and fair proceeding in a civilian court without further delay.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Daniel Patrick Moynihan



James M. Jeffords



City of Cambridge

50.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 15, 1997

VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY

- WHEREAS: On January 11, 1996, Lori Berenson, an American citizen and former resident of Cambridge was sentenced to life in prison by a secret Peruvian military tribunal in violation of international law; and
- WHEREAS: Lori Berenson was denied a fair public trial by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal, as required by Article 14 of the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, ratified by Peru on April 28, 1978; and
- WHEREAS: The Peruvian anti-terrorism laws afford no due process and have been strongly criticized by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and other human rights organizations; and
- WHEREAS: Ms. Berenson is living in excessively harsh conditions in a Peruvian prison which endangers her health and allows her extremely limited access to her family and legal counsel; and
- WHEREAS: Fifty-two members of the United States Senate, including Senators Kennedy and Kerry, and a near majority of the House of Representatives, including the entire Massachusetts delegation, have sent a letter to the Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright urging her to do all within her power to impress upon the Peruvian government the importance of providing an open trial in a civilian court for Ms. Berenson; and
- WHEREAS: The lack of due process at Ms. Berenson's trial leaves the question of her involvement in illegal activity unanswered and she must be presumed innocent until proven guilty; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby joins the entire Massachusetts Congressional delegation and fifty-two United States Senators in calling on Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright to do all within her power to impress upon the Peruvian Government the importance of providing Lori Berenson an open and fair proceeding in a civilian court without further delay; and be it further

Consent Order #50

R-1569a

Vice Mayor Born, Councillors
Triantafillou and Duehay re:
Support the entire Mass Congressional
delegation and 52 United States
Senators in calling on Secretary of
State Madeleine Albright to do all
within her power to impress upon
the Peruvian Government the importance
of providing Lori Berenson an open
and fair proceeding in a civilian court.

In City Council December 15, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED

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