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92-4th St. Cambridge Ma 02141
October 9, 1992

CAMBRIDGE MA.

To the Cambridge City Council and the Chief of Police

This letter describes a Complaint I wish to make against the Cambridge Tenants Union, the Eviction Free Zone and Mr. Bill Cavellini personally. It is also a demand that the City Council provide a police presence at all future public demonstrations of those organizations to protect owner citizens.

Three nights ago, October 5, there was a demonstration in front of City Hall involving a group of 30 or more hard core members of the CTU and the Eviction Free Zone celebrating the misfortune of Councillor Walsh. When I arrived at about 5:30 P.M., I was immediately subjected to jeers and taunts when I answered "Yes" to a question whether I am a friend of Bill Walsh. For the next 10 minutes as I tried to make my way through that gauntlet, I was confronted three times chest to chest with hysterical, deafening screaming literally one inch from my nose. One of the three tenants who chested me while screaming into my face at the very top of his lungs, and the only one I recognized, was Bill Cavellini. All the while, six or seven people crowded around me, screaming, jeering and taunting. It was all very intimidating and I felt in imminent physical danger. My only reaction was to shout back. But that was a puff against a hurricane. The decibel level was positively painful. My left ear hurts today still.

The leadership of the CTU, Messrs Turk, Gardner, Noble, the leadership of the Eviction Free Zone, Rohr, Meecham (both employees of the City funded CEOC) and Thibault, were all present. The CCA was also represented in the person of Mr. Martinelli. This coalition obviously organized that demonstration and could have easily controlled that bully mob and provide me with safe passage. But they made no effort.

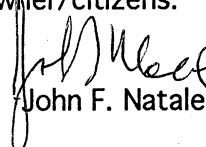
I continue to be very unsettled by that ordeal. No one should have to endure abuse and harassment to enter City Hall. Although I did not solicit specific witnesses at the time, this whole event was observed and reported by the local newspapers and TV.

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I want to point out a couple of other facts related to this whole episode. That rally had nothing at all to do with alleged bank fraud by Councilor Walsh. Walsh could have abused children or drove over old ladies; it would not have mattered to the CTU and the EFZ. Walsh only matters to his political opponents in this city because he is the most articulate and tenacious critic of Rent Control. That is THE issue. The CTU and EFZ try to intimidate and silence anyone who brings the abuses of this fraudulent public policy to public scrutiny, just as, I hasten to point out, the City Council two weeks ago silenced a public hearing of a very damaging rent control report. Neither of you tolerate opposition.

I am one of Rent Control's most committed opponents. I often speak out and write about it and will continue to do so. In America, even in Cambridge, I do not expect to risk the abuse of a bully mob of thugs for doing so. Although the persona of the CTU and EFZ Leadership when speaking before the Council is the model of civility, that facade, like Rent Control itself, is a fraud. Their real currency is intimidation. The City Council and the police should know that. I give you, for example, 292 Broadway, July 3, 1990. That is why so many owners are afraid to open their mouth. At all future public assemblies of the CTU and the EFZ, I expect the City Council and the police to protect me and other owner/citizens.

Sincerely,


John F. Natale

Consent Comm. # 19 5-831

Comm. from John F. Natale, 92 Fourth
St., requesting police protection for
all future assemblies of the CTU and
EFZ.

In City Council,

October 19, 1992

Placed on file