

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 15, 2008

The Honorable George W. Bush  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

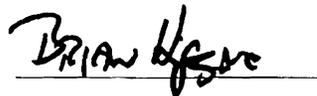
Dear Mr. President,

We are writing to express our support for a posthumous pardon for Charlie Winters, a gentleman who contributed to a great cause. He and other volunteers from around the world defied weapons embargoes to supply the newly established Israel with critical supplies to defend itself against mounting attacks from all sides. Without the actions of individuals like Mr. Winters, this fledgling democracy in the Middle East almost certainly would not have survived as the surrounding nations closed in on Israel's borders with their trained armies and established air forces.

The United States was the first nation to recognize Israel on May 15, 1948. Despite our recognition, U.S. policy was to embargo weapons to Israel and neighboring countries. Mr. Winters was convicted of violating the Neutrality Act, and he was sentenced to prison for several months. Two other individuals have received Presidential pardons for similar convictions. Mr. Al Schwimmer was pardoned by President Clinton and Mr. Hank Greenspun was pardoned by President Kennedy. This is a great opportunity to join Presidents Kennedy and Clinton in recognizing the sacrifices of these individuals and restore honor to Mr. Winters' family name. Therefore, we respectfully request that you consider granting him a posthumous pardon.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



cc: The Honorable Ronald L. Rodgers  
United States Pardon Attorney  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

List of Signers:

The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney

The Honorable Gary Ackerman

The Honorable José Serrano

The Honorable Brian Higgins