



April 29, 2016

The Honorable President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
USA

Subject: Support for Reconciliation and Clemency for Leonard Peltier

Dear Mr. President

France Libertés, the Foundation established by Danielle Mitterrand in 1986, seeks to defend human rights and the global commons. As such, we are actively involved in promoting indigenous peoples' rights and preserving their traditional knowledge.

We submit this letter in support of the clemency petition of Leonard Peltier. As you know, Mr. Peltier is a Native American activist who has been incarcerated for nearly 40 years after being convicted in connection with the deaths of two agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Mr. Peltier's deteriorating health makes this an urgent matter.

Countless humanitarians, courts, NGOs, Nobel Laureates and legal scholars have carefully analyzed the case and determined that there were multiple instances of wrongdoing throughout the investigation and prosecution of the case. Government prosecutors have repeatedly admitted that they did not and cannot prove Mr. Peltier's guilt, and the appellate courts have cited numerous instances of investigative and prosecutorial misconduct in his case.

Danielle Mitterrand, the former First Lady of France and founder of our Foundation France Libertés, visited Leonard Peltier in 1999 and has been defending his case by bringing attention on the violation of International Laws and Covenants by the continued unjust imprisonment and denial of proper medical treatment to Mr. Peltier.

Leonard Peltier has become a global icon who represents the historic and continuing injustices facing indigenous communities in the United States.

As raised in a report of Mr Anaya, former UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, granting Clemency to Leonard Peltier would be a significant and meaningful reconciliation signal for America's first peoples. That is why, we respectfully urge you to consider all of the factors surrounding the investigation and prosecution of Leonard Peltier and to issue an Executive Order of Clemency, in the interest of justice, fairness and reconciliation with America's indigenous peoples.

Sincerely,

Gilbert Mitterrand
President of France Libertés