

*File Copy*

*Jan. 12, 2007*

Dear Senator Casey, *Specter, & Rep. Platts*

We members of York Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) are deeply concerned about the new regulations the Israeli government has imposed on Americans working in Palestine. American Quakers have maintained a school in Ramallah for close to 120 years, and currently enrolls some 900 students in grades K through 12. This school reflects the Quaker commitment to peace and nonviolence in its teachings in this turbulent area..

The new travel restrictions make it impossible for American teachers to remain at the school for one entire academic year. These restrictions on Americans affect others who are also working for a peaceful solution to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.. Since Israel receives a large share of United States aid, please use your influence to bring pressure on the Israeli government to lift these unreasonable restrictions.

Enclosed is a copy of the letter our Yearly Meeting sent to Secretary of State Rice, which gives more detail about our concerns for the Quaker School in Ramallah.

In peace,

*Pat Long*

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