

To the Honorable Patrick J. Leahy,  
Chairman Committee on the Judiciary  
U.S. Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510



WRITE IS MIGHT!

**DECEMBER 10TH 2007**

## International Human Rights Day

Dear Senator Leahy,

I am writing on behalf of Mr. Leonard Peltier. Mr. Peltier is currently incarcerated at the United States Penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, for the deaths of two FBI agents, which occurred at the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota on June 26, 1975. Although he was imprisoned, his trial was unfair, and 31 years later Mr. Peltier still maintains his innocence.

Leonard Peltier is a Native American activist who is considered by Amnesty International, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, National Congress of American Indians, the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, former U. S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, among many other leaders, organizations, and private citizens to be a political prisoner who should be immediately released from prison.

In 2003, the United States Court of Appeal for the Tenth Circuit stated that, "Much of the government's behavior at the Pine Ridge Reservation and in its prosecution of Mr. Peltier is to be condemned. The government withheld evidence. It intimidated witnesses. These facts are not disputed." Peltier v. Booker, 348 F. 3d 888, 896 (10th Cir. 2003).

I have just learned that FBI Field Offices still possess 157,843 pages of material pertaining to Mr. Peltier. The U.S. Justice Department had an obligation under the law to turn over this information to Mr. Peltier's attorneys in 1977 at the time of his trial, but it did not. Prosecutors merely released 3,500 pages of material to Mr. Peltier's defense attorneys in 1977. Much of the data held by the FBI has never been seen by Mr. Peltier or his attorneys.

All FBI files dealing with Mr. Peltier ought to be released without any further delay. The public has a right to know what is contained in these FBI files. What possible rationale explanation could possibly exist for withholding from Mr. Peltier and the public documents that are over three decades old?

Please use your influence to push for the full release of all FBI files relating to Mr. Leonard Peltier. May I hear from you concerning this matter at your earliest possible convenience. I anxiously await your reply.

Sincerely,  
*[your name + complete address]*



FREE  
LEONARD  
PELTIER!