



THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN GENEVA

December 6, 2016

Mr. Dainius Puras
Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone
to the enjoyment of the highest attainable
standard of physical and mental health
Geneva, Switzerland

Ms. Victoria Lucia Tauli-Corpuz
Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples
Geneva, Switzerland

Mr. Juan Ernesto Mendez
Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or
degrading treatment or punishment
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Mr. Puras; Ms. Tauli-Corpuz; and Mr. Mendez:

Thank you for your letter dated October 20, 2016, inquiring about the case of Mr.
Leonard Peltier. Attached please find the response from the government of the
United States.

Sincerely,

Pamela Hamamoto
Ambassador

OHCHR REGISTRY

- 7 DEC 2016

Recipients :
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SUBJECT: U.S. response concerning the case of Mr. Leonard Peltier.

Thank you for your letter dated October 20, 2016, inquiring about the case of Mr. Leonard Peltier.

In 1977, Mr. Peltier was convicted by a jury in the U.S. District of North Dakota of two counts of first-degree murder for killing two FBI agents and was sentenced to two consecutive terms of life imprisonment. Mr. Peltier's conviction and sentence have been upheld by federal appellate courts on numerous occasions. Most recently in 2006, the District Court in the District of Kansas denied a habeas corpus petition filed by Peltier. That denial was affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in 2009.

In 1979, Mr. Peltier escaped from prison in Lompoc, California. Another inmate was killed during the escape, and Mr. Peltier was apprehended several days later by federal agents. In 1980, he was sentenced in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California to a seven-year term for escape by a federal prisoner and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

In 1994, the U.S. Parole Commission denied Mr. Peltier parole following a full hearing. In 2009, Mr. Peltier was afforded another full hearing before the U.S. Parole Commission, which denied him parole on August 21, 2009. His next scheduled parole hearing is in July 2024. Absent an earlier parole, his current projected release date is October 11, 2040.

Then-President George W. Bush denied Mr. Peltier's clemency petition on January 19, 2009. Mr. Peltier became eligible to petition a second time for clemency on January 20, 2010, and Mr. Peltier filed a new clemency petition on February 17, 2016. Mr. Peltier's petition has been received, is being evaluated, and he or his counsel will be notified when the President makes a decision.

The medical care provided at the U.S. prison in Coleman, Florida (USP Coleman), where Mr. Peltier is currently held, is commensurate with his medical conditions and is consistent with current standards of care. USP Coleman is accredited by The Joint Commission, an independent organization that provides health care accreditation to more than 21,000 health care entities. We are unable to disclose more detailed information due to privacy concerns, but the Bureau of Prisons advises that Mr. Peltier continues to receive appropriate medical care to address his medical conditions. Mr. Peltier is regularly seen by USP Coleman clinicians and

has recently been assessed by a specialist in the community. He will receive further attention from specialists as may be required by his medical conditions.

If Mr. Peltier's medical conditions deteriorate or become more complex, he may be transferred to a Federal Medical Center or another institution capable of meeting his needs. Mr. Peltier is classified as a high-security inmate and is appropriately housed at USP Coleman. Mr. Peltier's security classification is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure he has been placed in the lowest security level facility for which he qualifies while maintaining the inmate population balance throughout the federal prison facilities.

We appreciate your inquiry into this matter and hope the information provided herein is helpful.