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United States Congress

The Illinois Delegation

Washington, DC 20510



March 29, 1985

The Honorable George P. Schultz
Secretary of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As members of the Illinois Congressional delegation, we would like to express our grave concern for the safety and welfare of our fellow Illinoisan, the Reverend Lawrence Martin Jenco, kidnapped in Beirut, Lebanon three months ago. As director of Catholic Relief Services in Beirut, Father Jenco oversaw the distribution of aid to the residents of that strife-torn city without prejudice; indeed, whatever the faith of those in need, Father Jenco attempted to help. Thus, we are appalled at this additional act of terrorism directed against an American citizen and the good will of the people of the United States for the most base and spurious purposes.

We know that the Department of State will pursue every reasonable and effective opportunity in obtaining the release of Father Jenco and urge the utmost care for his safety in attaining that goal. Furthermore, we are deeply appreciative of the kindness and cooperative efforts shown by your offices to the members of his family.

Sincerely,

Alan J. Dixon
George M. O'Brien
Marty Russo
Cardiss Collins

Paul Simon
Edward Madigan
Frank Annunzio
Sidney R. Yates