

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 12, 1985

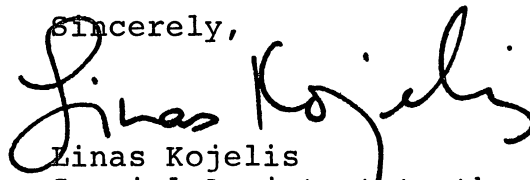
Dear Dr. Garcia:

Thank you for your message of support after President Reagan on October 10 directed U.S. military forces to intercept, in international airspace, an airliner transporting the Achille Lauro terrorists.

As you know, the airliner was diverted to the air base at Sigonella, Italy, where, in cooperation with the Government of Italy, the terrorists were taken into custody and appropriate legal proceedings began. As the President said the next day, these events "reinforce the determination of all those who share the privileges of freedom and liberty to join together in countering the scourge of international terrorism.... The pursuit of justice is well served by this cooperative effort to ensure that these terrorists are prosecuted and punished for their crimes.

The President has asked me to send you his appreciation and best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linas Kojelis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and a prominent dot over the 'i'.

Linas Kojelis
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
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