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THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

April 27, 1972

Hon. Raymond F. Farrell
Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service
United States Department of Justice
119 D Street
N.E., Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Commissioner Farrell:

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of John Lennon and Yoko Ono who are currently facing deportation proceedings initiated by your Department.

I consider it to be very much in the public interest, from the point of view of the citizens of New York as well as the citizens of the Country, that artists of their distinction be granted residence status.

They have personally told me of their love for New York City and that they wish to make it their home. They have made me familiar with the tragic hardship involved in their desperate effort to find Yoko's 8 year old child, Kyoko. I believe this is the type of hardship that our Immigration laws must recognize and the removal of the Lennons from this Country would be contrary both to the principles of our Country as well as the humanitarian practices which should be implemented by the Department of Immigration.

The only question which is raised against these people is that they do speak out with strong and critical voices on major issues of the day. If this is the motive underlying the unusual and harsh action taken by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, then it is an attempt to silence Constitutionally protected 1st Amendment rights of free speech and association and a denial of the civil liberties of these two people.

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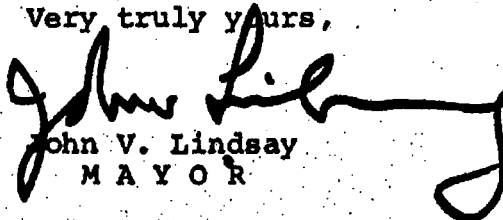
Hon. Raymond F. Farrell

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In light of their unique past and present contribution in the fields of music and the arts, and considering their talent to be so outstanding as to be ranked among the greatest of our time in these fields, a grave injustice is being perpetuated by the continuance of the deportation proceeding.

Very truly yours,



John V. Lindsay
MAYOR

cc: Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst
Commissioner Sol Marks
Senator Jacob Javits
Senator James Buckley

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