Senators Jacob K. Javits (R-NY) and Claiborne Pell (D-RI) today released the text of a message from the Cuban government indicating that Cuba will release four Americans held prisoner in Havana as "a gesture of goodwill" toward the
two Senators following their recent visit to Cuba. Senators Javits and Pell visited
Cuba from September 27-30 of this year.

The four Americans chosen for release by Cuban authorities are:
David Bruce Hirshberg and Susan Lane Brown, arrested September 17, 1973.

In announcing the release of the American prisoners, Senators Javits and
Pell released the entire text of the communiqué from Cuban officials. The communiqué
was delivered to the Senators by Dr. Susan Snacill, Ambassador to the U.S. from the
Republic of Czechoslovakia at three p.m. today (October 2) on behalf of the Acting
Cuban Foreign Minister. Following is the full text of the communiqué to Senators
Javits and Pell:

"The Cuban government appreciates highly the gesture of goodwill by the
Senators in coming to Cuba. As a response to their initiative and a gesture of
goodwill towards the two Senators, but not towards the government of the United
States, and as Fidel Castro indicated in his interview with the Senators, the
Cuban government has decided to release four American prisoners and has asked the
Czech Ambassador to so inform the Senators immediately."

The Czech Ambassador told Senator Pell that he would contact his country's
embassy in Havana, so that the Cuban government could make necessary technical
arrangements for the release of the prisoners.

Commenting on the release of the four Americans, Senator Pell said: "I am
delighted at this tangible result of our trip. I hope that this gesture of goodwill
by the Cuban government will be the forerunner of other gestures by both Cuba and
the United States and will ultimately lead to better relations between the two
countries.

Add: Senator Javits: "I, too, am deeply gratified at this gesture to us by
Premier Castro and the Cuban government. I should hope, however, that any future
gestures of this kind will be made as much in a spirit of goodwill toward the United
States government as toward Senator Pell and myself, and also that the progress in
such two-way relations will warrant it.

David Bruce Hirshberg and Susan Lane Brown were arrested September 17, 1973
while aboard the yacht "Sanive" of the Cuban coast. There were charged with possessing
drugs on the yacht. Both Hirshberg and Brown have three years remaining on their
prison sentences. Hirshberg is from Upper Saxon, Pennsylvania and Brown is from
South Royalton, Vermont.

Philip Burris and Richard Peter Johnson were arrested November 14, 1970 after
landing an airplane in Cuba with no Cuban visa or U.S. passport. They were charged
with taking drugs into Cuba but have claimed there were no drugs no board the plane
and that they landed in Cuba because of a fuel shortage on their aircraft. Burris
and Johnson had one year remaining on their sentences. Burris is a native of
Oakland, California.