

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

OF SAN FRANCISCO, THE PENINSULA, MARIN AND SONOMA COUNTIES

Beneficiary of the Jewish Community Federation

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STATEMENT ON JONATHAN POLLARD

The Jewish Community Relations Council of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties, representing more than 70 synagogues and Jewish organizations on public affairs issues, approved the following statement at its October 13, 1992 board meeting, culminating an examination of the Jonathan Pollard case over the course of several months.

"With respect to Jonathan Pollard, now serving life in prison, all Americans understand that it is necessary and proper to send the message that espionage, for whatever purpose, is abhorrent and will not be tolerated, even in the context of friendly nations.

However, we strongly believe that the message has already been effectively sent in this case and that in the interests of personal compassion and equity, commutation of Jonathan Pollard's sentence - arguably too harsh to begin with, given both the context and comparable sentences - would be appropriate."

During its deliberations the JCRC reviewed and considered resolutions in support of commutation from many organizations, ranging from B'nai B'rith International to the Northern California Board of Rabbis.

APPROVED OCTOBER 13, 1992