

July 13, 2004

Mr. Jude J. Shao
P.O. Box 701-422
Qing Pu Prison
Shanghai, China 201701

Dear Mr. Shao:

Thank you for your letter of May 10 that Chuck Hoover recently forwarded to me. Please rest assured that your case is at the forefront of the American citizen cases that I personally raise with the Chinese at every appropriate opportunity and in every public speech I give.

I completely agree that the facts and circumstances of your case warrant a review of your conviction by Chinese authorities. Through the Embassy's persistent efforts, others who have been improperly incarcerated in China have regained their freedom, and we shall remain aggressively engaged in advocating for your release.

Recently, I met with Mr. Hoover and Professor Jerome Cohen to discuss your case. You are fortunate to have such devoted friends and tireless advocates working on your behalf. In fact, I am a former student of Professor Cohen's. I learned from them that your attorneys are asking the Supreme People's Court to rule on the findings of the panel of six prominent Chinese legal scholars, while independently pursuing the possibility of presenting new evidence concerning your tax payment records to establish your innocence. On the diplomatic side, I, and members of my staff, routinely raise your case in many consular, human rights, and other bilateral contexts. Senior United States Government officials visiting from Washington regularly inquire about you in the course of their dealings with the Chinese Government as well.

You have my personal assurance that we shall persist until you are free.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

//s//

Clark T. Randt, Jr.

CC: Professor Jerome A. Cohen
Mr. Chuck Hoover