

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 15, 1998

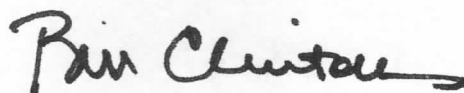
Dear Mr. Soffer:

I enjoyed meeting you last month and wanted to respond to the letter you gave me regarding the Sefrei Torahs in Egypt. I understand the religious and historic significance the Sefrei Torahs have for you and other American Jews of Egyptian origin.

The American Embassy in Cairo has pursued this issue with senior Egyptian officials but believes it cannot go further until the Jewish community in Egypt is prepared to release the scrolls. If this is obtained, our new Ambassador, Daniel Kurtzer, will be prepared to assist you in getting necessary clearances for export from Egypt.

Thank you again for your letter and for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Claitor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Mr. Clement Soffer  
525 Seventh Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> floor  
New York, New York 10018