

NICK CASTLE

December 8, 2002

To Hipolito Acosta
District Director
Immigration and Naturalization Service

My name is Nick Castle. I have spent the last thirty years writing and directing motion pictures. As a writer I have contributed to many films including, Steven Speilberg's, *Hook*, and John Carpenter's, *Escape from New York*. As a director my credits include, *Tap*, *The Last Starfighter*, *Dennis the Menace*, and *Major Payne*.

It is with great concern that I have learned of the case of Roger Calero who has been imprisoned by your department. Mr. Calero is a seasoned writer and editor for the respected journal *Perspectiva Mundial*. I am aware of the circumstances of his arrest, his history in the United States and the pretext for his incarceration.

The facts are overwhelming. This detention has nothing to do with Mr. Calero's teenage arrest of over fourteen years ago and everything to do with his current work as a political activist and reporter. It is obvious to me that the INS has taken a stand against the right of the people who live in this country to hear opposing views.

I take attacks on the Bill of Rights and the First Amendment seriously. As an active member of the Director's Guild of America (DGA) and the Writer's Guild of America (WGA) I will take this case to our membership for consideration. We in the Hollywood community have learned many a hard lesson about government interference in the arts. I'm sure many will find this case of a journalist threatened with deportation for simply speaking his mind as abhorrent as I do.

I demand that you drop your efforts to deport Mr. Calero to Nicaragua and immediately release him to resume his residence and work in the United States.

Sincerely,



Nick Castle