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April 1, 2004

His Excellency Ulrik Federspiel
Ambassador from the Kingdom of Denmark to the United States
3200 Whitehaven St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20008

Your Excellency:

In the past, I have greatly enjoyed my visits to your country, and especially to visit my family in Copenhagen. However, I write you today because I am greatly troubled over recent developments in the enclave of Christiania.

As you doubtless know, Christiania has existed since 1971 as an independently and democratically run community in a former naval base in Copenhagen. This community has been an model to the world, and it is thus with great regret that I read of recent police actions against the residents of the area.

These actions, from what I read, seem to be politically motivated, and the benefit to residents either of Christiania or of the rest of Copenhagen is dubious. I thus urge you and your government to cease these attacks on Christiania, and to look for ways to heal the damage that has already been done.

I await hearing your response on this issue.

Sincerely,

Michael Castleman