



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL/USA
 ADOPTION GROUP 181
 P.O. BOX 5914
 CEDAR RAPIDS, IA. 52406

REPUBLICA DE CHILE
 PRESIDENCIA
 REGISTRO Y ARCHIVO

NR. 82/18235

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| P.A.A. | <input type="checkbox"/> | R.C.A. | <input type="checkbox"/> | F.W.M. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 July, 1992 | | | | P.V.S. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| M.T.O. | <input type="checkbox"/> | EDEC | <input type="checkbox"/> | J.R.A. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| M.Z.C. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

ARCH.V.

Sr. Patricio Aylwin Azócar
 Presidente de la República de Chile
 Palacio de Moneda
 Santiago
 Chile

Dear Presidente Patricio Aylwin Azócar,

As a member of Amnesty International I rejoiced when civilian government was restored in Chile. I anticipated that the violation of human rights would cease and that the perpetrators of torture, disappearances, and extra-judicial killings during the 16 years of military government would be prosecuted and punished.

I now realize that the amnesty law of 1978 passed by an illegal government protects such perpetrators unless it is rescinded. It does not, however, prevent the prosecution of such perpetrators for their actions between 1979 and 1990. Neither does it prevent the public exposure of the torturers and murderers who were granted amnesty.

The Comisión Nacional de Verdad y Reconciliación has presented the case of Nelson Vladimiro Curiñir Lincoqueo to a civilian court. He is one of hundreds of Mapuche Indians who were cruelly treated by the military because they had worked to regain some of their land during Allende's agrarian reform. I am very much concerned that the court has not proceeded to establish the criminal responsibility for his extra-legal execution in 1973. On the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Europeans, it is especially important to show respect for the human rights of Chile's indigenous people.

I am also very much concerned that under your government there have been repeated delays and serious judicial irregularities in the trials of 50 political prisoners arrested before 1990. And the CNVR continues to receive reports of current torture. This reprehensible behavior is likely to continue until the torturers of 1973-1978 are publicly exposed and the torturers of 1979-1990 are prosecuted and punished.

I urge you to fulfill the obligation of your government to maintain the human rights of all your citizens and to prosecute those who violate them. Nullification of the amnesty law of 1978 would greatly facilitate your efforts.

Copy to Ambassador Patricio Silva
 Comisión Chilena de Derechos Humanos
 Organización Mapuche ad Mapu

Sincerely,

Sr. Patricio Aylwin Azócar
Presidente de la República de Chile
Palacio de la Moneda
Santiago
Chile

Dear Mr. President,
I am writing to you today because of my concern about human ~~rights~~ rights. Since 1992 is the 500th anniversary of the arrival of the Europeans to the Americas it seems appropriate to heighten our vigilance of concern for the rights of indigenous peoples.

I have just learned of the case of Nelson Meladimiro Curimil Lincoyeno who was arrested by the military in 1973 and killed while in custody. I hope that your government pursues the investigation into this and other cases of arrest and violence against indigenous people.

I am concerned that the Amnesty law of 1978 is a serious obstacle to justice and should be repealed.

I thank you for your attention on this matter

Respectfully yours,

Joel Moya