

September 23, 1992

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

REGISTRO Y ARCHIVO					
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Sr. Presidente:

I am writing on behalf of Nelson Wladimiro Curiñir Lincoqueo, a 22 year old Mapuche Indian. October 5, 1973 a heavily armed group of men in air force uniform entered his house, threatened his family and told them he was being taken to Maquehua air force base. October 18 his family heard a radio announcement describing him as an MIR activist that had escaped while being transferred. The announcement stated orders had been given for his capture dead or alive. Witnesses have testified seeing him taken from Maquehua air force base by air force members in the early hours of October 13. In March 1990 a Mapuche Indian came forward to say that Sr. Curiñir's body had been found on the banks of the River Cautín in 1973 and had been buried as "NN" in a cemetery near Temuco. The CNVR presented this case to a civilian court which ordered an exhumation in November 1990. His family identified his body and an autopsy revealed he had been shot in the back of his head.

I welcome the investigation into his killing and hope the full truth will emerge with those responsible for his death dealt with by law. Amnesty International believes this must happen with all human rights violations in order to prevent them from recurring.

Respectfully,

Dawn M. Moore
61 Rear Lincoln Street
Bath, Maine 04530
USA