

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

Your Excellency:

I am writing to you out of grave concern about reports conveyed by Amnesty International-U.S.A. that the Comité de Defensa de los Derechos del Pueblo (CODEPU) received nine death threats by phone on 29 January 1992 after having their office broken into in the early hours of the same day. The callers, identifying themselves as the Frente Nacionalista de Combate, claimed they knew who the members of CODEPU were, and asserted they would kill them.

I wish to urge that the source of these threats be investigated immediately and that those responsible for the break-in and the death threats be brought to justice. I entreat you, further, to take adequate steps to protect the lives and insure the physical well-being of all members of CODEPU.

I would like you to know, your Excellency, that my concern for the basic rights of CODEPU (and of all human beings) is not of a political nature. Thanking you in advance for your attention to this important and urgent matter,

I am, respectfully,

Professor Donald Kenneth Gutierrez
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Western New Mexico University
Silver City, New Mexico 88062
The United States of America

cc: Sr. Enrique Krauss Rusque, Ministro del Interior
General Rodolfo Stange Oelckers, Director General de Carabineros
Sres. CODEPU
Sr. Director, Análisis
Sr. Director, La Nación
Ambassador Patricio Silva, Embassy of Chile

February 11, 1992

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