

REPUBLICA DE CHILE
PRESIDENCIA
REGISTRO Y ARCHIVO

92/26755
18 NOV 92

Minal Tapadiya
C\O University High School
4771 Campus Drive
Irvine, CA 92715

ARCHIVO

Sir Patricio Aylwin Azocar
Presidente de la Republica de Chile
Palacio de la Moneda
Santiago, Chile

Your Excellency:

On September 11, 1973, a violent coup overthrew the democratically elected Salvador Allende. About one month later, 22-year old Nelson Wladmiro Curnir Lincoqueo was taken into military custody because he was a activist in the Communist Party. Though he was a student at the State Technical University, his family never saw him alive again. On October 18th, his family heard him described as an MIR activist and heard of his escape while being transferred to a state prison. Recently, in March 1990, a fellow Mapuche Indian testified and said that his body had been found on the banks of the River Cautin and that he had been buried in 1973 unknown in a cemetery near Temuco. The National Commission of Truth and Reconciliation took it upon itself to look into serious human rights violations committed during the years of military government.

As a member of Amnesty International, I am always concerned about violations of human rights and feel that this was an absolute atrocity that was committed by the Chilean military government. Although this is the 500th anniversary of Columbus' landing in the New World, my concern will most certainly increase, not diminish, when 1992 is over. It is a horrendous crime to kill anyone due to their political or religious beliefs. I also believe that the extrajudicial execution of Lincoqueo in 1973 was absolutely uncalled for. Making a person get shot without a fair trial is unconstitutional and would not be tolerated in the United States, or any other democratic country, for that matter. Finally, I would like to express appreciation for your efforts as leader of a newly democratic country. I have hope that the full truth regarding his execution will come through and those responsible for all improper deaths during the military period will be brought to justice. To prevent more crimes like this from occurring it is your duty to fulfill these obligations. The amnesty law of 1978 puts a barrier to continuing investigations and therefore, Amnesty International believes the law should be repealed. I have faith that you will be do your utmost effort to investigate and stop human rights violations.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Minal D. Tapadiya
Minal D. Tapadiya.