

INTERNAL (for AI members only)

AI Index: AMR 22/94/86
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Amnesty International
International Secretariat
1 Easton Street
London WC1X 8DJ
United Kingdom

To: All sections
Campaign Coordinators
Chile/CHAN coordinators

From: Americas Research Department

Date: December 1986

ORIGINAL

CHILE CAMPAIGN UPDATE 6

Summary

The attached circular is in two sections, one internal and one external.

The internal part contains examples of photographs of demonstrations which some sections organized and information about Chile before the World Bank and three international governmental organizations.

The external circular gives information about the renewal of the state of siege in Chile and the current situation. Although noone is currently being held under the state of siege provisions, the pattern of human rights violations by clandestine and official security forces continues.

Amnesty International is particularly concerned about the rearrest of Dr Ramiro Olivares, a staff member of the Vicariat of Solidarity. Background information and photographs on this case can be found in Campaign Circular 4: Persecution of Members of the Clergy and Lay Church Workers (AMR 22/35/86).

Distribution

As above.

Recommended actions

Although the Chile Campaign is drawing to a close, the attached circular can be sent to groups participating in the campaign for information, and for action as appropriate.

Sections and coordination groups should draw their governments attention to the case of Dr Ramiro Olivares and ask them to take up the case with the Chilean authorities. Reiterate Amnesty International's concerns about attacks on human rights workers and organizations. You may also refer to the extract from the UN General Assembly's resolution on Chile which refers to human rights workers. (See attached internal sheet).

Sections, coordination groups and groups participating in the campaign should also follow up approaches to church bodies already made as part of the campaign by sending them this information and urging them to take action.

Groups participating in the campaign should also send appeals to the Chilean authorities calling for the release of Dr Olivares and an end to attacks on human rights workers.

Appeals should be sent to members of the Junta, the Minister of Justice, Minister of Health (Sr Juan Yaconi) and the Interior Minister.

Copies of appeals should be sent to the Vicaria de la Solidaridad, the Chilean Medical Association (Colegio Medico de Chile), individual members of the Supreme Court and the Military Appeals Court (Corte Marcial), and to the Archbishop of Santiago.

Copies should also be sent to: Teniente Coronel
Fernando Torres
Fiscal Militar Ad Hoc
Zenteno 102
Santiago, Chile
(Military Prosecutor dealing with the trial)

Note

Campaign coordinators should note also that the hunger strike of political prisoners which was referred to in last week's weekly update (NWS 01/36/86) was called off on 11 December.

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Chile and the World Bank

At the end of November, the World Bank voted to approve 250 million dollars worth of loans to Chile. Countries supporting the vote included the UK, FRG and Japan. 41 per cent of the vote abstained, among them the USA which gave as its reason "the serious concern of the USA over human rights violations in Chile". In July the US administration had warned it might vote against the loans. Several other abstaining countries also cited human rights grounds. Voting against the loans were Denmark, Greece, Italy, Norway, Portugal and Sweden, among others.

All Amnesty International sections had been asked to approach their countries delegates to the World Bank to inform them of the organization's concerns and to ask them how they could help to persuade the Chilean authorities to bring human rights violations to an end. Amnesty International's policy of not taking a position on sanctions such as withholding loans or making them conditional, was stressed. The IS has been notified by the following sections that they sent the letters as requested: France, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal, UK and USA.

Further Chilean loans are due to be considered by the World Bank and other international agencies in 1987. Sections that did not approach their World Bank delegates are still urged to do so. (See AMR 22/48/86).

Chile and International Governmental Organizations

Both the United Nations General Assembly and the European Parliament adopted strong resolutions condemning the human rights situation in Chile.

94 countries voted in favour of the United Nations resolution in December. Five countries voted against, including the USA. While recognising the fact that the government had cooperated with the Special Rapporteur during his visit in December 1985, the General Assembly expressed its regret that "this cooperation ...has not led to a substantial improvement in human rights and substantial freedoms". It emphasised the need for the Government of Chile "to restore and respect human rights" and called on it, inter-alia to "immediately end all forms of physical and psychological torture and effectively respect the right to life and to physical and moral integrity, and desist furthermore from intimidation and persecution, abductions, arbitrary arrests and detention in secret locations." Amongst the other recommendations was a call to "respect the activities of organizations and persons related to the protection and promotion of human rights."

The Chilean authorities reacted to the resolution saying it was now considering whether to cooperate with the United Nations in the future because the motion was "distorted" and "false". The Special Rapporteur is due to return to Chile on a fact-finding visit and a decision is expected shortly on when it will take place.

The full text of the UN General Assembly Resolution and a report on the General Assembly can be found in IOR 41/09/86 which is about to be sent to sections.

On 23 October, the European Parliament adopted a resolution condemning the increase in violence and repression in Chile and calling on its foreign ministers to "take all possible steps to bring about ..respect for basic freedoms, human rights and the freedom of the press." A copy of the resolution is attached.

Chile's human rights record was also sharply criticised in the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights which was submitted to the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in November. The section on Chile concluded that "The gravity of the facts laid out in this section oblige the IACHR to reiterate in the most energetic terms, the necessity of the Chilean Government to put the institutional mechanisms in place to reestablish, as soon as possible, the enjoyment of representative democracy....since only in democracy is it possible to reach agreements between representative political sectors and the fundamental institutions to establish an order of peace and justice without which respect for human rights cannot be achieved. "

RESOLUTION

on the situation in Chile

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the savage repression, the mass arrests, the torture and the reprisals initiated throughout Chile by the military regime of General Pinochet, along with the deportation and banishment of more than 97 000 people, according to the figures provided by the police themselves, and the recent arrest of 60 Chilean opposition leaders,
 - pointing out that the Church has not been spared during this wave of repression, three French priests in particular having been expelled, that the official radio station of the Chilean episcopacy has described the new climate of tension in the country as nothing less than 'civil war' and that Santiago is virtually in a state of siege,
 - having regard to the support of ever broader sections of Chilean society for the opposition movements which together form the 'Assamblea de la Civilidad' ('Union of the People') which is fighting for the immediate restoration of democracy in the country,
 - given that General Pinochet wishes to dissociate his economic and financial policy from the human rights situation,
1. Denounces the increase in repression and violence in Chile, the dictator Pinochet's only response to the demand for democracy, freedom and respect for human rights made by the Chilean people;
 2. Calls for the immediate release of all political prisoners and pays tribute once again to all the victims of the Chilean dictatorship;
 3. Calls on the council and the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation to take all possible steps to bring about the lifting of the state of siege, respect for basic freedoms, human rights and the freedom of the press, and the restoration of democracy as soon as possible by means of elections which are free, secret, guaranteed and fair;
 4. Calls on the council to request the IMF and the World Bank to suspend all financial aid to Chile until such time as the conditions set out in paragraph 3 of this resolution have been met;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation.

SOLIDARIDAD magazine, 15-28 November 1986, Chile

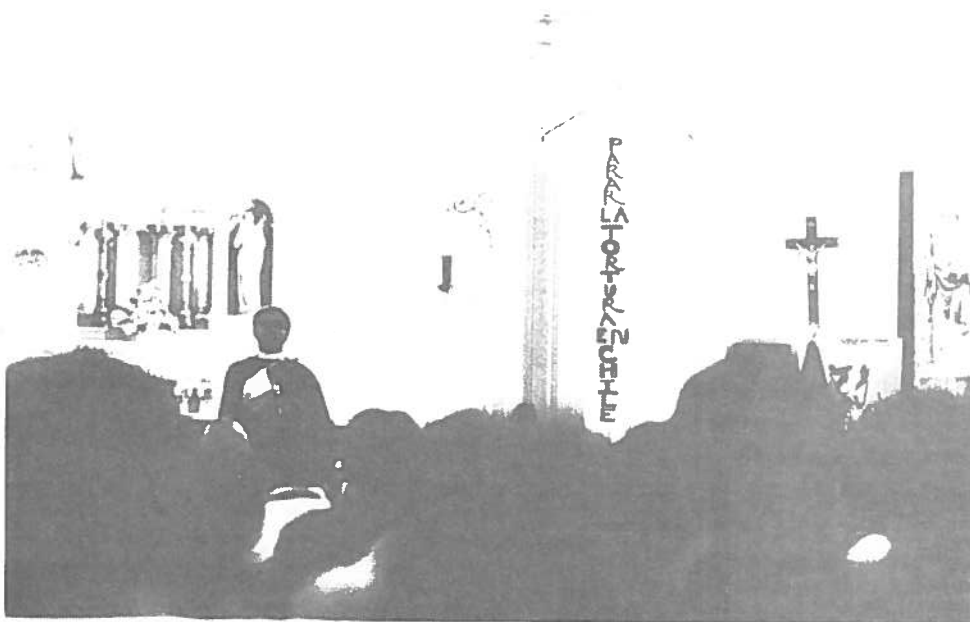
The campaign against torture in Chile launched by AI is currently underway in different cities worldwide. In the last few days we received letters and photographs of demonstrations that groups of volunteers have been organizing in California (USA), Munich (FRG) and Berne (Switzerland). Through these actions, "AI members hope to bring about an end to the torture of detainees, as well as arrests and abductions by police and security forces ...



Campaña de Amnesty CONTRA LA TORTURA EN CHILE

Prosigue en diversas ciudades del mundo la campaña lanzada por Amnesty International contra la tortura en Chile. En los últimos días recibimos cartas y fotografías con acciones de denuncia callejera que grupos de voluntarios han estado realizando en California (Estados Unidos), Múnich (República Federal de Alemania) y Berna (capital de Suiza). Mediante estas acciones, "los voluntarios de Amnistía buscan que en Chile se ponga fin a la aplicación de tortura a detenidos, como asimismo las detenciones y secuestros efectuados por fuerzas policiales y de seguridad...; nos dirigimos, asimismo, contra el terrorismo ejercido por tales agrupaciones al que están sometidos, entre otros, habitantes de barrios pobres y miembros de la Iglesia Católica".

En la foto, el grupo de voluntarios de Múnich exhibe carteles en los que se lee: "VIVA CHILE, VIVA EL PUEBLO CHILENO". "AMNISTIA INTERNACIONAL CONTRA LAS EJECUCIONES EXTRALEGALES".



A mass in honour of victims of human rights abuses was held by Group 387, Berkeley. The congregation wrote cards of support to 100 churches in Chile

HOY magazine, 1-7 December 1986, Chile

'AI CAMPAIGN

In different countries. In different languages. But with the same objective: to protest at the abnormal situation in Chile under the state of siege.

Against the arrests and unlawful abductions, against torture ... These were some of the reasons for the demonstrations that Amnesty International held, in Tel Aviv, Israel, and in Munich, FRG ..."

La campaña de AI

En distintos países. En distintos idiomas. Pero con el mismo objetivo: protestar por la situación de anomalía que vive Chile bajo estado de sitio.

Contra las detenciones y secuestros ilegales, contra la tortura y para que termine el exilio. Esos fueron los motivos de las manifestaciones que Amnistía Internacional (AI) realizó, ahora, en Tel Aviv, Israel, y en Munich, Alemania Federal.

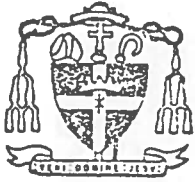
Desde Mons, Bélgica, otro grupo de AI informó que la campaña por Chile terminó en noviembre. Y empezó una nueva, por "prisioneros de opinión" en Etiopía y Grecia.

Amnistía Internacional: protesta en todos los idiomas



Sent by Group 44 in Alabama

An AI member in Denmark received this letter from the Bishop of Valdivia



EL OBISPO DE VALDIVIA

Valdivia, 1º de Noviembre de 1986.

Estimada señorita,

perdone que le conteste en castellano. Para mí es más rápido, y confío que alguien le traduzca la carta.

Gracias por su iniciativa y preocupación por los derechos humanos en nuestro país. Su reacción se suma a la de mucha gente en el mundo, y esto hace tomar más fuerza a la justicia de nuestra causa, y más esperanza a los que trabajamos por esto en Chile.

Aunque es duro vivir en situaciones semejantes, también es consolador ver cómo se despiertan valores humanos de solidaridad y servicio, que aseguran una generación futura en la humanidad mejor que la actual.

Un cordial saludo en el Señor.

+ A. Jiménez L.
† A. Jiménez L.
Obispo de Valdivia.

Translation:-

... Thank you for your initiative and concern for human rights in our country. You are among many who have taken action throughout the world. This response adds weight to the justice of our cause, and additional strength and hope to those of us working for human rights in Chile.

Although it is difficult to live under these conditions, it is nevertheless gratifying to see the awakening of the human values of solidarity and support, to ensure that future generations enjoy a more humane life ...



AI members in Denmark held a demonstration in front of the Chilean embassy

EXTERNAL (for General Distribution)

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1 Easton Street
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CHILE UPDATE 6

Rearrest of Human Rights Doctor

Amnesty International is deeply concerned at the rearrest on 12 December of Dr Ramiro Olivares, a staff member of the Vicariat of Solidarity, the Catholic Church human rights organization. He was taken before the Fiscal Ad Hoc dealing with his trial and informed that he was now being charged under the Antiterrorist Law. This is particularly serious since those charged under the Antiterrorist law have no right to appeal for their release on bail.

Dr Olivares had first been arrested in May 1986 after he and a Vicariat lawyer, Gustavo Villalobos, had given humanitarian assistance to a man with bullet injuries, unaware that he had, according to official reports, taken part in an attack on a bread shop in which a policeman was killed. The two were originally charged with assisting armed groups under the Arms Control Law. Both were released on bail on 7 August.

An arrest warrant has also been issued against another doctor, Dr Ramon Rojas, who also gave treatment to the wounded man on referral from the Vicariat of Solidarity and was imprisoned in May. There are fears that he may be imprisoned. Charges against him have also been changed to offences under the Anti-terrorist Law.

Dr Ramiro Olivares has now been charged with being an accessory after the fact (encubridor) in the murder of the policeman. Amnesty International believes that the upgrading of charges against Dr Olivares and his rearrest are aimed at discrediting the work of the Vicaria by associating it with the alleged activities of armed groups. It considers that Dr Ramiro Olivares has been arrested for the non-violent exercise of his profession and is calling for his immediate and unconditional release.

Human rights organizations have been the victims of a number of attacks this year. On 9 September General Pinochet had warned that "The government will get tougher in its war against marxism..All those who are involved in human rights and such things will have to be expelled from the country or put in prison". Several were arrested at the time, and many others were the victims of threats and intimidation by clandestine forces. (See AMR 22/72/86: Chile: Update Three).

For further background details on the case of Gustavo Villalobos and Ramiro Olivares see AMR 22/54/86: Persecution of Members of the Clergy and Lay Church Workers).

State of Siege

On 8 December 1986, the Chilean authorities renewed the state of siege in the main regions in the country for a further thirty days. It was lifted in several others. Suspension orders against the opposition magazine Apsi were lifted but upheld those against four others imposed in September. The authorities also suspended Pluma y Pincel (Feather and Paint Brush), a women's magazine.

Although there are no more detainees being held under the provisions of the state of siege, the pattern of arbitrary arrests and torture continues and there have been numerous reports of harassment, abductions and torture by clandestine groups linked to the security forces. Between 7 September and 15 November, the Vicariat of Solidarity reported that in Santiago alone it had received reports of 872 arrests, of whom 726 were released unconditionally and a further 35 after appearing before a court. These figures do not include more than a thousand people rounded up during raids on poblaciones (poor neighbourhoods) at the beginning of September or numerous arrests which have occurred in the provinces.

Arrests in Demonstrations

No national demonstrations have taken place since the state of siege but local protests have resulted in numerous arrests. Most were taken to police stations, held for a short period and then released. Many students have been held, some while protesting at the detention of their leaders especially in Valparaiso where several student leaders were detained without charge under the state of siege provisions until mid-November. More than 150 pupils from secondary schools in Santiago were detained on 5 November when uniformed police removed them from a school they had occupied to press for their demands. 16 people were arrested on 16 November when uniformed police violently broke up a gathering of 300 people who were painting a mural in homage to Rodrigo Rojas and Carmen Quintana, burnt by a military patrol in July. After a month in prison, nine who had been charged under the State Security Law were released unconditionally after the Appeals Court revoked the charges. In Concepcion, some 50 people were arrested and several demonstrators beaten on 11 November when Special Forces of Carabineros broke up a peaceful demonstration outside the cathedral to mark the anniversary of the suicide in 1983 of Sebastian Acevedo. He had set fire to himself in protest at the CNI detention of his son and daughter. Members of the Sebastian Acevedo Anti-torture Movement were also arrested in Santiago during demonstrations in November and December.

Torture

Reports of torture in the four months since the state of siege was declared increased sharply compared with the rest of the year. In Santiago alone, 70 cases were reported between September and November. Detainees were also tortured in Concepcion, and La Serena where 8 members of a fishing crew arrested by uniformed police and accused of assaulting police were reported to be in such bad conditions when taken to prison that the prison authorities refused to take them in and they were transferred to hospital. Three days later, while they were still in hospital, a military prosecutor

resolved that there were no grounds to bring any charges against them.

Amnesty International has received the testimonies of some of the victims. Most of them cite the Central Nacional de Informaciones (CNI), state security police, as being responsible but some refer to Investigaciones, criminal investigations police, and a few to Carabineros, uniformed police.

Torture testimonies received by Amnesty International include that of student leader Manuel Gajardo, who was taken to the CNI detention centre in Calle Borgoño on 26 September, interrogated about his activities, severely beaten and given electric shocks on the arms, hands, face and stomach, as well as being threatened. He was abandoned in the street almost 24 hours later.

Veterinary surgeon Alsino García Mújica was held for 24 hours in a CNI detention centre following his arrest on 11 November. He said he was tortured with electricity (parrilla and picana).

19 year old Patricia Peña Díaz, arrested on 4 September by military personnel and handed over to the CNI said she was drugged, given electric shocks and raped while in CNI custody. As a result, she became pregnant but suffered a miscarriage after a few weeks. Amnesty International has received reports that she was not given adequate medical treatment and that she was not allowed access to an independent psychiatrist outside visiting hours.

Many of those arrested during the last three months have been held in connection with the finding of arms caches last August and the attack on General Pinochet. Five men accused of being directly involved in the attack on Pinochet alleged they were tortured while held by Investigaciones between 21/22 October and 25 October when they were transferred to prison. In his testimony, Lenin Peralta described how he was blindfolded, beaten, subjected to the pau de arara and given electric shocks which increased in intensity when his answers failed to satisfy his captors. The five men were held in prolonged incommunicado detention after their transfer to prison, without access to families or lawyers.

A report was also received recently concerning 24 detainees arrested by the CNI in connection with the finding of arms caches in August. It described how 22 were tortured with electric shocks to sensitive parts of the body, beaten and kicked, especially in the face and testicles, subjected to the pau de arara and psychological torture such as death threats, and the torture of a relative in front of a detainee. The report also stated that "methods were used which had been abandoned by the security forces and which had been used principally during the years immediately after the coup in 1973." These included the introduction of mice into the mouth and anus of two of the detainees while they were strung up. Several people arrested subsequently in connection with the same trial also said they were tortured, for example Lucila Cárdenas Leiva and Juan Fernando Muñoz Moraga, arrested on 8 and 9 November respectively by Investigaciones.

Amnesty International is seeking further information about a number of other detainees held by the security forces during the last few months.

Clandestine Forces

Clandestine forces have maintained a campaign of threats and intimidation, abductions and torture. Human rights lawyers in Concepcion, Valdivia, Valparaiso and Copiapo were among the recipients of death threats in October and November, as well as politicians such as Jorge Lavandero whose home was raided by unidentified civilians. Also threatened were the father of Gaston Vidaurrazaga who was abducted and murdered in early september, relatives of political prisoners and student leaders.

Victims of abductions were usually bundled into cars, driven around and interrogated either in the cars or in secret detention centres before being abandoned a few hours later. Trade union leader José Balmadero Godoy Araya was taken to a detention centre, stripped naked and questioned about his trade union activities on 3 November. Other victims include Rogelia Castellani Gonzalez, abducted by armed hooded civilians and tortured with electricity (29 October); construction worker Carlos Fuentes Piña, abducted on 7 November, interrogated, tortured with electricity and beaten while driven round in a car; 14 year old Michel Reyes Lagos, stepson of a political prisoner, abducted by three men and a woman on 10 November, interrogated, and beaten in the face.

Also kidnapped was 21 year old ex-political prisoner Marco Leal San Martin. On 18 November, eight armed civilians bundled him into a car from a street in Santiago and took him to a secret detention centre where they interrogated him about political prisoners. They played him tape recordings of conversations which had taken place in prison, and showed him photographs. He was badly beaten, given electric shocks and drugged. When he woke up he was near El Quisco, on the coast, with his captors. He managed to escape from their custody.