

National Union of Mineworkers

(DERBYSHIRE AREA)

Area Offices: **SALTERGATE, CHESTERFIELD S40 1LG**

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Our Ref.

PEH/ALN

Your Ref.

6th May, 1974.

Mr. L. Murray,
General Secretary,
Trades Union Congress,
Congress House,
Great Russell Street,
London, WC1.

Dear Mr. Murray,

The Derbyshire Miners Area Council representing 13,000 miners, at its last meeting, unanimously approved a resolution protesting in the strongest terms against the Government's decision to continue the sale of submarines and frigates to the military junta regime in Chile. The Area Council were unanimous in their opinion that if the sale of arms was to proceed, it would be an indication that we are in some part accepting the illegal and unconstitutional action of the armed junta which was successful in overthrowing the democratically-elected Government.

Might I repeat an extract from the letter sent by Mr. Ron Haywood, General Secretary of the Labour Party, to Senator Anselmo Sule on the 12th September of last year:

"It is difficult to express the sense of horror and anger which the British Labour Movement feels as the aspirations of the working people of Chile - shared by so many others around the world - are destroyed at the hands of a few arrogant and ignorant officers acting at the behest of those who believe that their right to rule is unchallengeable."

"I hope that you will take some comfort from the knowledge that, although the battle for human progress has suffered a grave defeat in Chile, the world-wide struggle for democratic socialism against those who seek to deny the people their political and economic rights will continue, and we remain confident of our ultimate success."

Yours sincerely,

P. E. Heathfield
Area Secretary.