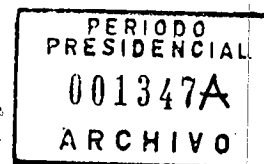


Office of the President-Elect
and Vice President-Elect



January 6, 1993

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to take advantage of the visit of my good friend, Senator Tom Harkin, to respond to your thoughtful letter of December 18th. I appreciate your kind words about my recent election and share your hope of strengthening the ties that unite our countries.

As I am sure you are aware, Senator Harkin has long been a strong friend of Chile and your country's struggle for democracy. He is also one of my closest friends and advisors and I am grateful for the important role he played in my election as president. I am delighted he is paying this important visit to Chile and am looking forward to speaking with him upon his return regarding the many important issues of interest between our two peoples.

The return of democracy to Chile has set the standard for human rights and the rule of law for those around the world who are seeking to make a similar transition to freedom. Your own leadership has been crucial to that achievement and I look forward to working with you to strengthen the gains that have been made in recent years in Chile and throughout Latin America. Working together with our neighbors, we can build a hemispheric community of democracies, one where open markets and accountable governments provide the foundations of freedom and prosperity.

I appreciate the comments in your letter regarding the process of reaching a free trade agreement between the United States and Chile. One of my goals as President will be to work toward a new era and spirit of cooperation to promote free markets and to expand and strengthen our economic ties on mutually beneficial terms. That is why I support the efforts to develop a North American Free Trade Agreement as well as continued effort to expand trade and other economic opportunities within this hemisphere, including a free trade agreement with Chile. As I have stated concerning NAFTA, such potential agreements must provide adequate protection for workers, farmers and the environment in the United States and abroad.

Again, thank you for receiving my friend, Senator Harkin. Let me extend also my best wishes to you and your family for the New Year. I am looking forward to working closely with you toward the goals we share.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Clinton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "B" and a long, sweeping tail.

Bill Clinton

His Excellency
Patricio Aylwin Azocar,
President of the Republic of Chile,
Santiago.