

Medical Scientists Committee
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9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
U.S.A.
February 20, 1992

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M.T.O.	E.D.E.C.	J.R.A.
M.Z.C.		

Sr. Patricio Aylwin Azocar
President de la Republica de Chile
Palacio de la Moneda
Santiago, Chile

Dear President:

The Medical Scientist Committee is a group of healthcare workers/researchers affiliated with Amnesty International.

We are concerned at the threats made against members of Comite de Defensa de los Derechos del Pueblo (CODEPU) and the raiding of its offices. In the early hours of 29 January the offices of CODEPU in Santiago were broken into. No important documents were taken and only minor damage was sustained. However, on the same day, following the break-in, nine telephone calls were received at the CODEPU offices. The callers from a paramilitary group, said that they knew well who the members of CODEPU were and that they would kill them.

We respectfully urge that the source of the threats be investigated and that those found responsible be brought to justice. We ask that adequate steps be taken to protect the lives and physical integrity of all members of CODEPU. We further urge that measures be taken to ensure that members of human rights groups are able to conduct their legitimate activities without fear of reprisal.

Thank you for your attention to this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Doreen N. Schiffman, M.S.L.S.

Elliot Schiffman, Ph.D.

Doris Brody M.A.

Carolyn Martin

Alfredo H. Kabela, D.Sc.

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Copy: Ambassador Patricio Silva, 1732 Mass. Ave NW Wash DC