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14 June 1992

Sr. Patricio Aylwin Azócar
 Presidente de la República de Chile
 Palacio de la Moneda
 Santiago
 Chile

REPUBLICA DE CHILE					
PRESIDENCIA					
REGISTRO Y ARCHIVO					
NR.	92/13508				76
A:	16 JUN 92				
P.A.A.	<input type="checkbox"/>	R.C.A.	<input type="checkbox"/>	F.W.M.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C.B.E.	<input type="checkbox"/>	M.L.P.	<input type="checkbox"/>	P.V.S.	<input type="checkbox"/>
M.T.O.	<input type="checkbox"/>	EDEC	<input type="checkbox"/>	J.R.A.	<input type="checkbox"/>
M.Z.C.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to draw your attention to the case of

Juan Domingo Salvo Zúñiga, aged 46,

who was sentenced to death by an Appeals Court in April 1992 for the murders of of a woman and her three children.

I fully understand the seriousness of the crime which Juan Salvo has committed but I feel obliged to express my strong and unconditional opposition to the death penalty in all cases because:

- executing people, under any circumstances and whatever method is used, is beyond the dignity of a modern state
- the death penalty is a cruel, inhuman and degrading form of punishment violating the right to life as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- justice is not served by murdering a murderer; the death penalty merely weakens the confidence in law and reduces the value of life; therefore its use is brutalizing to all who are involved in the execution process
- the death penalty has never been shown to deter crime more effectively than other punishments
- the death penalty denies the penal principle of rehabilitating the offender widely accepted in modern Western states.

From the press I have learnt about your opposition to the death penalty and your promise to use your discretionary power to grant clemency in death penalty cases which come before you. Referring to this welcoming news and on the basis of above-mentioned I respectfully request you to exercise your power of clemency and save the life of Juan Salvo by commuting his death sentence. In addition I urge you to do everything possible for the total abolition of the death penalty in Chile because this seems to be the worldwide trend.

Yours sincerely and respectfully

Ms Kaisa Hälinen
 Vatakuja 1 A 2
 SF-00200 Helsinki
 Finland



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Ant. 92/13508
Santiago, Junio 19 de 1992

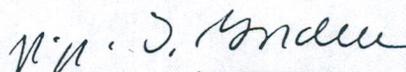
Señora
Kaisa Hälinen
Vatakuja 1 A 2
SF 00200
Helsinki - Finlandia

Estimada señora:

En relación a su carta de fecha 14/06/92, S.E. el Presidente de la República don Patricio Aylwin Azócar ha impartido instrucciones para que ésta sea atendida en la Subsecretaría de Justicia.

Para tal efecto, este Gabinete ha remitido su carta mediante oficio GAB. PRES. 92/0003077 a dicha institución.

Saluda atentamente a Ud.


Carlos Bascuñán Edwards
Jefe de Gabinete Presidencial

c.c.: Archivo Presidencial
Corr. Correspondencia