



FREEDOM HOUSE

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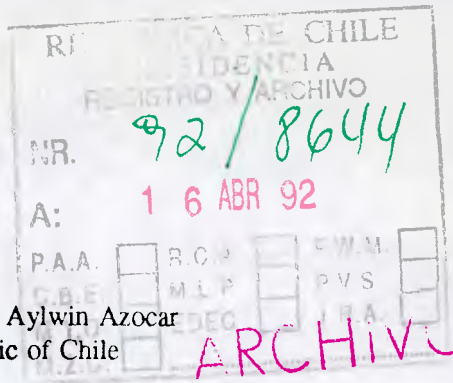
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April 7, 1992

His Excellency Patricio Aylwin Azocar
President of the Republic of Chile
Palacio La Moneda
Santiago, Chile

Dear Mr. President,

Knowing of your commitment to human rights and of Chile's membership in the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, I am writing to bring to your attention a matter of utmost concern: the dangerous situation of several human rights activists in Cuba.

The Commission voted recently to appoint a special rapporteur to investigate human rights violations in Cuba. Only a handful of dictatorships opposed the investigation, and your government, to its credit, voted for the resolution.

In 1988, the Commission submitted to the Cuban government a number of questions about human rights, the Cuban constitution, and Cuban laws. Fidel Castro's government refused to answer those questions, which were then included in the report submitted by the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations, Ambassador Rafael Rivas Posada during the session just concluded.

In February of this year, four Cuban dissident intellectuals dared to respond to these questions from Havana in a document that was recorded by telephone, transcribed, translated and distributed by Freedom House to Commission members and staff in Geneva. The authors are as follows: Magdalena Cruz Garcia, Luis Octavio Ibarra, Roberto Luque Escalona, and Jose Luis Pujol.

It would be a great tragedy if they were to be punished for providing information to the U.N. Commission. I would like to respectfully request that your government make a strong representation to the Cuban authorities urging them to take no such action. In light of the tactics used against dissidents in the past by the Cuban government, we believe these concerns are not without justification.

I would like to thank you in advance for your kind consideration of this matter.

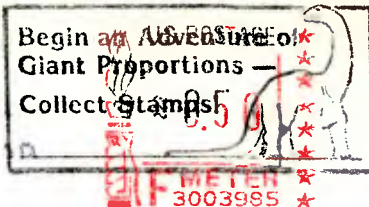
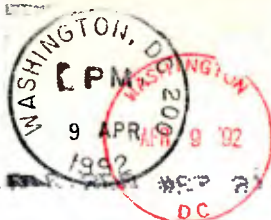
Sincerely,

R. Bruce McColm
Executive Director

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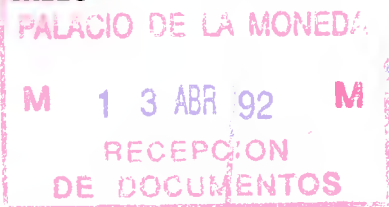
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AIR MAIL

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



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