

HARMAN GARFINKEL & CO
SOLICITORS

3A BLACKSTOCK ROAD
FINSBURY PARK
LONDON N4 2JF
DX 57455 Finsbury Park
Fax: 081 - 809 5112
TELEPHONE: 081 - 809 3693

ARCHIVO

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Our Ref: KH cph

Your Ref:

Date: 8 September 1992

FAX NO: 010 56 2 6973262

TO: President Patricio Aylwin

COMPANY:

MESSAGE: Please see attached letter

REPUBLICA DE CHILE					
PRESIDENCIA					
REGISTRO Y ARCHIVO					
NR.	92/20516				
A:	08 SEP 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"/>
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FROM: KH

NO. OF PAGES: 2 including cover sheet

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President Patricio Aylwin
Palacio de La Moneda
Santiago
Chile

BY FAX - 010 56 2 6973

Our Ref: KH cph

Your Ref:

Date: 8 September 1992

Dear Sirs

We are writing to register our deep concern in relation to the progress of the current investigation into the disappearance of Alfonso Chanfreau, in connection with which Osvaldo Romo Mena is shortly to be extradited.

We understand that a request has been made for the transfer of the Chanfreau investigation to the Military Court. We consider that such a transfer would impede the course of justice in this case and would point out in particular that the investigation has been dealt with for over one year by the Civilian Court which is already informed of the details of the case and has all documents in its possession. It is clearly of the utmost importance that cases such as these are dealt with in the most expeditious manner, and for this reason we ask you to intervene in whatever way possible to ensure that the Chanfreau investigation remains with the Civilian Court.

We also wish to express our concern over the application of the amnesty law of 1978 both in the Chanfreau investigation and in other similar cases. We would emphasise that in the case of such disappearances, the crime under investigation would in our opinion be a continuing crime which remains perpetrated until the whereabouts of the disappeared person has been established. We do not consider it at all appropriate therefore to apply the amnesty law in these cases. We would urge you to make every effort to ensure that the amnesty law is not so misapplied and, further, to bring to the weight of your opinion to the campaign for the eventual repeal of the amnesty law so that a full and proper investigation of disappearance crimes may be conducted.

We are grateful for your attention in this matter and look forward to receiving your reply.

Yours faithfully,


HARMAN GARFINKEL

Partners
David Garfinkel
Virginia Harman

Associates
Mark Lewis
Kathryn Harriss