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ORIGINAL

INTIMIDATION AND HARASSMENT BY CLANDESTINE GROUPS

AUGUST 1988

SUMMARY

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Intimidation by clandestine groups is now one of the most common methods of political persecution in Chile. The use of death threats, abduction, torture and other types of intimidatory actions began to spread in 1983 when opposition demands for a return to democracy and the restoration of human rights started to gain momentum. In the past year, as the country prepares for a plebiscite in which voters will decide whether to accept as president a single candidate put forward by the military junta, abuses by these groups have proliferated.

Despite government assertions that the threats and attacks are the work of ordinary criminals or independent extremist political groups, there is convincing evidence that they are carried out by secret units linked to the security forces, and made up of members of the official agencies and civilian collaborators. Evidence which has emerged through the courts, the groups' methods of operation, the impunity with which they operate and the vast resources available to them all clearly point to an association with the security forces and official condonement.

Anyone perceived as critical of government practices risks harassment and thousands live with the uncertainty of possible abuse. Those targeted include political and trade union activists, members of human rights organizations, community leaders in the poor neighbourhoods and bishops, lawyers, and court officials. Also singled out recently, as the country prepares for the plebiscite, have been journalists and members of groups campaigning for free elections and a "no" vote in the plebiscite.

Over a hundred people reported being assaulted, or kidnapped for short periods in the past eighteen months. Many of them were beaten. Some were given electric shocks, burnt with hot metal or acid or had cuts scored into their flesh. Homes have been raided in the middle of the night and the occupants threatened at gunpoint. Hundreds of others received sinister messages in phone calls or letters warning of impending execution. Dead animals have sometimes been delivered reinforce the warnings. The most serious case in the past year, however, was the "disappearance" of five political activists in September 1987. These five "disappearances", the murder of four members of opposition groups in 1986 and of three communist party members in 1985 serve as reminders of the power that lies in the hands of these secret units, and mean that the death threats cannot be ignored.

Strong evidence of links between the clandestine units and the security forces has emerged in a few cases through the courts. However, the judges carrying out these investigations have come up against serious obstacles. Several have complained that the lack of police cooperation hampered their work. Hundreds of complaints and petitions for protection have been submitted to the courts but not one case has resulted in the bringing to justice of those responsible.

This summarizes a 13-page document, Chile: Intimidation and Harassment by Clandestine Groups: AI Index: AMR 22/35/88 issued by Amnesty International in August 1988. Anyone wanting further details or to take action on this issue should consult the full document.

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Amnesty International
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Intimidation by clandestine groups is now one of the most common methods of political persecution in Chile. The use of death threats, abduction, torture and other intimidatory acts, began to increase in 1983 when opposition demands for a return to democracy and the restoration of human rights started to gain momentum. In the past year, as the country prepares for a plebiscite in which voters will decide whether to accept as president a single candidate put forward by the military junta, abuses by these groups have proliferated.

In spite of government allegations that the threats and attacks are the work of ordinary criminals or independent extremist political groups, Amnesty International has concluded that they are secret units linked to the security forces, made up of members of the official agencies and civilian collaborators. Their methods of operation, the impunity with which they operate and the vast resources available to them all clearly point to an association with the security forces and official condonement. Methods are sometimes so similar to those used by the official agencies that it is often impossible to distinguish between operations by the clandestine units and the undercover activities of the security forces, particularly in cases of raids, surveillance, abduction and torture. In the few cases where members of these units have been photographed in action or otherwise singled out, they have been identified as members of military or police agencies.

Clandestine groups: their victims and methods

Oscar Eloy Gómez is regional president of the Chilean Teachers' Association in the northern town of Arica and leader of the local campaign for a "no" vote in the plebiscite. In the early hours of 27 April 1988 as he was walking in the town centre, he was suddenly intercepted by three men, their faces covered with balaclavas. After forcing him into their vehicle and driving him to an isolated place outside the town, the three men fired shots at his feet, handcuffed him and started kicking and beating him. Before they left him, they warned him that the same would happen again if he continued his activities.

He is just one of thousands who live with the uncertainty of possible abuse. Anyone perceived as critical of government practices risks harassment and intimidation, and among the many who have been affected so far are: members of human rights organizations such as the catholic church-sponsored Vicariate of Solidarity, Comite de Defensa de los Derechos del Pueblo, CODEPU, (the Committee for the Defence of the Rights of the People), and branches throughout the country of the Chilean Human Rights Commission; court officials investigating human rights abuses; members of

local community organizations such as social and welfare groups, women running soup kitchens for the poor, political activists, relatives of the "disappeared" and political prisoners; workers', student, teachers' and nurses' leaders; church officials from local priests to bishops and even a cardinal; actors presenting theatre works interpreted as anti-government. Also among those singled out in recent months, as the country prepares for the plebiscite and a possible transition to limited civilian rule, have been journalists and press photographers, members of committees campaigning for a "no" vote in the plebiscite and for free elections, and members of political parties such as the Party for Democracy PPD, (Partido por la Democracia).

Over the last eighteen months, more than a hundred people, like Oscar Eloy Gomez, have made formal denunciations of abduction, or assault in the street or their homes by these groups. A sample of these cases are detailed on pages .. of this document. Many other cases may never be publicly told through fear that threats of further abuses may be carried out. Hundreds of other individuals have received sinister threats in anonymous telephone calls or letters. Messages, reinforced by drawings of coffins, skulls, gravestones, hangman's nooses, coffins and blots of red ink or paint symbolising blood, frequently warn of impending execution. "Shut up or die" [calla o muere] was one message sent to a human rights lawyer in Temuco, and in July 1988 a group of political prisoners in Valparaiso prison received a written warning from the Frente Nacionalista Húsares de la Muerte, National Front of the Hussars of Death, that all members of armed opposition groups and of the Communist Party, and their relatives, would be wiped out. Methods of execution described included the poisoning of prison food, burning down people's homes and the use of sophisticated explosives. They would be beaten like dogs and run over in the street, warned the threat.

Dead rats, birds, cats, and human excrement have sometimes been delivered to people's homes with the messages. "It was terrible" said Sergio del Solar, president of the Quilpué Human Rights Commission after finding a cat impaled on the railings outside his home, its throat slit in November 1987. "All I could think of was to hide it so that my family wouldn't suffer." (1)

The most alarming case in the past year was the "disappearance" of five young political activists, the first "disappearances" in Chile for some time. The practice was frequently used between 1973 and 1977 in the early years of the government of General Pinochet to eliminate political opponents. One of the five, Alejandro Pinochet Arenas, was last seen on 10 September 1987 being forced into a car by armed men in the middle of Santiago. Though there were no witnesses to the abduction of the other four men, Julio Muñoz Otarola, Gonzalo Fuenzalida, Manuel Sepúlveda Sánchez and José Peña Maltes, the circumstances in which they suddenly went missing that same month led to grave fears that they too had been abducted.

Their "disappearance" and the deliberate and brutal murders of seven political activists - three in March 1985 and four in September 1986 - serve as stark reminders of the power that lies in the hands of the clandestine groups. Warnings of death or "disappearance" cannot therefore be ignored. "I couldn't stop being afraid" said actress Schlomit Baytelman, threatened with death in February 1988, "because there was always the possibility that the threat might be carried out...It was as if I had been beaten. It's very strange because one feels as if one's walking around with a weight on one's shoulder all the time." (2) Schlomit Baytelman is also

active in the campaign for free elections. Another woman wrote to a friend after receiving a death threat: "I am afraid of a cruel death at the hands of my enemies.... I don't know what to do, who can protect us. There is so much uncertainty. I don't know if we will be alive from one day to the next or if something might happen to my daughters at school." [3]

Some people, like judge Yolanda Manríquez, have suffered persistent harassment. Following the murder of her son in 1986, Judge Manríquez received repeated telephone threats and was constantly watched, to such an extent that in March 1988, the civilian courts granted her protection by uniformed police for an indefinite period. Judge Manríquez's son Gaston Vidaurrázaga was one of the four opposition group members abducted and murdered in September 1986. A year after his death she told the press: "They haven't stopped harassing me since they killed my son. Every month, at any moment. A few weeks ago, the last time they phoned, they told me my [other] son Ignacio, a political prisoner in Concepción, had died and that I had to go there. They also told me my daughter-in-law, also a political prisoner, was dead. I knew that it wasn't true..They wanted to hurt me, they wanted to make me suffer more." [4]

Even if the threats are not repeated immediately, the psychological pressure is maintained because the target knows that the intimidators may act again at any moment. Warnings of further reprisals are often carried out, as 43-year-old school inspector Osvaldo López Sepúlveda discovered. Three times in July 1987 he was intercepted in the street by a group of civilians who interrogated him and threatened to kill him. "We'll see each other again" [Nos vamos a seguir viendo] he was warned on the last occasion. Twice he was abducted after that, once in August and later, in December 1987, for further interrogation and beatings. On the last occasion he was threatened with "disappearance".

Harassment of families, friends and relatives

Whole families may be directly affected by the activities of the clandestine forces, for example during raids on homes or other types of attack. Osvaldo Muñoz Poblete, regional leader of the Servicio Justicia y Paz, SERPAJ, (Justice and Peace Service) in Valparaíso, was at home with his wife and three young daughters in the early hours of 27 February 1988 when a firebomb was thrown at his home. The fire was put out before it spread. Osvaldo Muñoz had been participating in a series of hunger strikes calling for investigations into the cases of the five activists who "disappeared" in September 1987 and for the unification of the opposition prior to the plebiscite. Earlier he had been sent a press article with photographs of the five "disappeared" and the warning that "Unity has its price" [La unidad tiene su precio.]

Many families have had their homes raided and ransacked by armed civilians. Some operations have involved as many as 20 agents and numerous vehicles. Raids often take place during the night. Those present may be threatened or held at gunpoint while the house is searched. "We'll kill him wherever we find him" [Lo vamos a matar donde lo pillemos] threatened the group of armed men who raided the home of student leader Marcos Fuentes at 03.00h on 9 December 1987. Another typical operation was carried out against bus driver Fernando Weibel Navarrete, whose two brothers "disappeared" after arrest in the 1970's. A third brother is a political prisoner. Late in the evening of 30 November 1987, when he was not at home, four armed civilians forced their way into his home. His wife and two children were held in the living room while the other agents

searched the house, leaving it in complete disorder and disconnecting the telephone. After half an hour they left, getting into a van and two cars with dark windows in which another group of civilians were waiting. They warned Fernando's wife as they left that if he denounced what had happened to the Vicariate of Solidarity "he'll disappear just like his brothers did" [va a desaparecer igual que sus hermanos].

Other families have to live with the knowledge that they are being watched, at any hour of the day or night - intimidatory surveillance is also a common method of harassment used by the secret units. Their members usually park their vehicles outside the family home of the intended target, making no attempt to disguise their presence and sometimes shining carlights directly into the homes in the middle of the night. Sometimes the same individuals who were watching the home approach the victim to issue a warning. Actor René Roa was walking through the centre of Santiago on 24 December 1987 when he was approached by the same van which he had seen watching his house a few days earlier. "We're going to kill you anyway" [te vamos a matar igual] warned one of the occupants. In earlier death threats, he had been warned to stop using the theatre where he works as a "front for the Communist Party".

Pressure on the intended target is often channelled through their relatives, friends or employees including in some cases assault, abduction and torture. The young housekeeper of Dr Alberto González, Carmen Alvarado Oyarce, was attacked at his home twice in the space of a month this year - at the end of March and in April 1988 - when men in plainclothes with their faces covered broke into the house, tied her up, threatened, beat and cut her. During the same period, individuals dressed as nurses tried to kidnap Dr Gonzalez' young daughter; a plate with a cake on it was stolen and returned to the doorstep the following day full of human excrement, and unidentified civilians were seen observing the school where his wife works. It is not known why Dr González is being harassed.

Sometimes even the children of activists have been targetted, as in the case of 12-year-old Fabián Ordenes, son of a trade union leader, who was attacked in the street. Two men tried to abduct him in October 1987, but instead beat him and threw him in a ditch when a bus approached. Others, some as young as 10 years old, have been intercepted in the street and told to pass warnings on to their parents. "Tell your mother to stop her activities or you'll pay for it." [dile a tu mamá que deje de meterse en lo que está porque tu vas a pagar la consecuencia] was the message given to the children, aged 10 and 11, of Cecilia Benítez, social democrat member of a local campaign for free elections, when they were intercepted by two men in December 1987.

Attacks on institutions

Not all harassment has been directed at specific individuals. Church buildings, particularly in those parishes or dioceses where church officials have spoken out against government practices, the offices of political parties, trade unions, women's, human rights and similar organizations have been the object of raids, robberies, arson attacks and other acts intended to intimidate the organizations' members or associates and frighten away others from participating in their activities. Documentation including lists of members, or money or equipment essential for the functioning of the organization may be taken away or destroyed. Among the organizations targetted in the last year have been several bishoprics and parish buildings in different parts of the country, regional

branches of the Comando Nacional de Trabajadores, CNT, (National Workers' Command), the Villa Alemana branch of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, searched in March 1988, the Centre for Development and Social Studies in Santiago, raided three times between December 1987 and April 1988. In January 1988 the headquarters of the Christian Democrat Youth party were raided, the telephone cut, files and documents destroyed and lists of members taken away. The office of the Party for Democracy in Valparaiso was the object of a similar raid in the middle of the night of 30 May 1988.

Some premises, such as the Chapel of Our Lady of Guadeloupe in one of the poblaciones in Santiago, have been singled out for several attacks. In the early hours of the morning of 4 February 1988, two days before a hunger strike calling for investigations into the five September 1987 "disappearances" was due to begin there, unidentified individuals fired shots which passed through the wooden walls of the chapel from a passing vehicle. A bomb was also thrown which bounced off the iron railings and exploded on the pavement. Months earlier in the early hours of 23 August 1987 it had been set on fire and only the rapid action of neighbours prevented the fire from spreading. A few days earlier, uniformed police had gone to the area to remove political banners which had been placed near the chapel grounds. Witnesses say the police went into the parish buildings while pastoral activities were in progress, interrogated those present and warned in a loud voice that "they were going to set fire to the church." (iban a prender fuego a la capilla.)

Links to the security forces

The government has strongly denied any responsibility for the clandestine units, which operate anonymously or using such names as Acción Chilena Anticomunista, (Chilean Action against Communists), ACHA (a play on the Spanish word for axe), Comando Rolando Matus, the Frente Nacionalista de Combate, FNC, (Nationalist Combat Front) and Comando 11 Septiembre. Sometimes official sources refer to them as "delinquents" and at other times have alleged that the threats are the work of members of left-wing armed opposition groups. They have often condemned the activities of the units. When some 80 actors and theatre workers were warned they would be killed if they didn't leave the country by the end of November 1987, the government wrote:

"This situation merits the complete repudiation of the Chilean Government, which rejects any type of action that puts individuals at risk..Furthermore, it has been the constant concern of the Chilean authorities to guarantee through all legal channels, the full security of the community and its proper protection so as to avoid damaging peoples rights.

However, strong evidence which has emerged through judicial investigations in a few cases, the extent of the groups' operations, the manner in which they operate and the absolute impunity with which they have been able to carry out their activities leave little doubt that they are acting with official condonement and that they are made up of members of the security forces acting clandestinely with civilian collaborators. Their operational networks extend throughout the country and even abroad. They have a considerable amount of weaponry including heavy machineguns, and explosives. They have access to buildings which they use as detention centres, numerous personnel and levels of organization, information and financing characteristic of the security forces.

This phenomenon is not new in Chile. In the years immediately following the 1973 military coup, at least 700 individuals "disappeared", some after arrest by uniformed units, others after being taken away in clandestine operations by unidentified agents. The government always denied responsibility for the detentions. However, as the years passed, overwhelming evidence emerged, including through court findings, that the operations were conducted by secret units made up of members of the security forces.

Numerous victims have reported that those responsible for acts of intimidation against them had access to detailed personal information of the type normally only in the hands of the intelligence services. Some of those abducted such as 17-year-old Miguel Morales Riquelme and 18-year-old Leonel Colpe Zambrano who live in one of the poblaciones in Santiago have reported that their captors checked whether there was any record of them using radio equipment in their cars. The information available to the clandestine forces may include details of activities a person undertook while abroad and of family members in exile. Anonymous phone calls, or interrogation during raids on homes or abduction often reveal that the individual has been under secret surveillance. The men who kept telephoning Valparaiso student leader René Lues in December 1987, for example, knew all about his trip to Mexico, and 'all that he had done and said there against the government.' [todo lo que habia hecho y hablado en contra del gobierno]. The detailed knowledge they had of him "makes one assume that these individuals have a file of classified information on him" reported his friends in a complaint to the court. [lo que presume la posesión por parte de los individuos de un dossier con información clasificada.]

Witnesses and victims alike have repeatedly stated that members of clandestine forces carry out their activities with the confidence and certainty that they will not be prevented from doing so. In several cases of abduction, uniformed police nearby have reportedly done nothing to prevent the abduction. Mario Nuñez Muñoz, who works with Grupo Proceso producing popular education videos, related that "On 12 September 1987, at about 21.30h as I was walking alone along Lastarria street, I suddenly heard footsteps running up behind me. Almost immediately I was grabbed from behind and forced into a vehicle in which there were four men. I was handcuffed and we rapidly set off. All this occurred in full view of uniformed police who were on guard outside the Diego Portales [a government] building." He was driven around and badly beaten before being released. (5)

In other cases, civilians believed to be members of these secret units, have beaten or fired on demonstrators in full view of police who did not intervene to stop them. On 11 March 1988, in the centre of Santiago, police are reported to have watched as press photographer Luis Arnes was beaten by a group of men in plainclothes, and to have ignored his cries for help as he lay on the ground, his nose bleeding. The attack occurred after he had photographed an incident during a pro-government march in the centre of Santiago in which two youths who had shouted out anti-government slogans were beaten up by marchers. There have also been many instances where civilians armed with machineguns have fired on demonstrators with impunity.

"We really didn't want to make these incidents known" said leaders of the Chilean Nurses Association (Colegio de Enfermeras de Chile) at a press conference in February 1988, "because we don't want to let them threaten all our colleagues or affect our work as an association, but we think that [these incidents] are extremely serious." (6) In the first two months of

this year they received numerous threatening telephone calls. On one occasion, one of the nurses' leaders picked up the telephone and heard "Firing squad. Aim. Fire." [Peloton. Apunten..Fuego] and then the sound of shots being fired. In another call, they were warned they would be killed and that their legs would be cut off.

"Who can fire shots at the side of a telephone?" asked Roberto Garretón, head of the Human Rights Commission of the Federation of Professional Associations (Federación de Colegios Profesionales), speaking at the press conference. "Those who have weapons to do it and know for certain that if they shoot, nothing will happen to them. The threats are being used to keep the population in a state of fear." (7)

Evidence emerges in the courts

The strongest evidence of links between clandestine units and the security forces has emerged through judicial investigations. In each of the following cases, judges identified vehicles or members of the security forces as having been involved in clandestine operations.

o Three gunmen who fired at the San Cayetano parish buildings in the Población La Legua, Santiago, in 1985 were later identified as agents of the Central Nacional de Informaciones, CNI, state security police. They had been photographed by journalists who were in the area at the time.

o A car which tried to run over Dr Francisco Acevedo, a leader of the Izquierda Unida, United Left Coalition, and human rights worker, in October 1987, was identified as belonging to the CNI. A month later, he was abducted by men who said they were members of ACHA. (See Abductions below.)

o A man who blew himself up as he was planting a bomb at Our Lady of Fátima Church in the southern town of Punta Arenas in 1984 was identified by a local court as an army intelligence officer. Leaflets in the name of ACHA were found nearby with the message "We want religion in our church not politicians disguised as priests". [En nuestra Iglesia queremos religión, y no políticos con disfraz de cura].

o Three men in civilian clothes photographed beating up protestors during a demonstration on 1 May 1983 were identified as CNI agents. Charges were brought against them some time later, but the case is still pending.

o The most dramatic evidence revealed by the courts relates to the abduction and murder of communist party members, Santiago Nattino Allende, José Manuel Parada and Manuel Guerrero Ceballos, who were abducted on 28 and 29 March 1985 in broad daylight in Santiago and in front of numerous witnesses. A police helicopter was seen circling above the school where Manuel Guerrero and José Manuel Parada were being abducted. On 30 March the mutilated bodies of the three men were found on the outskirts of Santiago. In the public outcry which followed, a special judge, Sr. José Cánovas was appointed to investigate the killings and in a ruling in January 1987 he concluded that "There is sufficient evidence to consider that a group of carabineros police who were members of DICOMCAR [an intelligence unit of carabineros, now disbanded] participated in these events and that, outside their official bounds of duty, they formed an unlawful association." (8)

Investigations Obstructed

In spite of repeated government claims that incidents involving clandestine forces will be fully investigated by the courts and that those responsible will be punished, not one of the many hundreds of cases brought to the attention of the courts resulted in any of the perpetrators being brought to justice. The majority of the complaints against the clandestine units submitted to the courts have been closed with little or no progress in investigations. In a few cases where judges such as Sr. Cánovas have been determined to carry out their investigations, their efforts have come up against a wall as soon as they have started to pursue evidence of the involvement of members of the security forces. Lack of cooperation from the military and security forces has been a major obstacle reported by judges and lawyers for the plaintiffs, and made the identification and location of those responsible almost impossible. Members of the security forces summoned to appear in court sometimes turn up having altered their physical appearance. In other cases, they have been transferred to remote parts of the country making court appearances very difficult, or they present false identity documents to the courts, so that it is difficult to locate them again later because their real names are not known.

Judge Cánovas' experiences highlight some of the problems. In his January 1987 ruling he closed his investigations into the 1985 triple murder, complaining of a lack of cooperation by police who at times had deliberately lied to cover up the facts of the case. Among the incidents cited by the judge was the adulteration of flight records of the helicopter which flew over the scene of the crime, the failure of police to carry out a number of inquiries requested by the judge, including one which was considered key to his work, and the fact that police officials summoned to court altered their appearance to obstruct identification. The investigations, which were reopened on appeal, are still continuing, more than three years after the killings.

Judge Aquiles Rojas has faced similar difficulties in investigating the abduction and killing of José Carrasco, Felipe Rivera, Abraham Muskatblie and Gaston Vidaurrazaga. The killings occurred on 8 and 9 September 1986, shortly after an assassination attempt on General Pinochet, during the curfew hours of a newly imposed state of siege when Santiago was under strict military control. Two years on, the judge has been unable to identify those responsible and at the end of 1987 he submitted a complaint to the Supreme Court that uniformed and criminal investigations police had failed to assist him properly in his work. He cited in particular the fact that a carabineros officer, Major Manuel Gamboa, had repeatedly failed to obey summonses to appear before him.

The courts receive hundreds of petitions for protection every year on behalf of individuals who have been threatened or attacked and who fear for their safety. Although the degree of danger faced by the individual is hard to assess, and the harassment difficult to prove, numerous judges have recognised that the targets are in danger and ordered that uniformed police give protection to the threatened individuals.

A small number of judges dealing with amparo petitions submitted on behalf of individuals who have been threatened or abducted in Valparaiso, Punta Arenas and Santiago, have also recognised the existence of "illicit groups" such as ACHA in their rulings and that they constitute a real danger. For example, on 11 April 1988 the Punta Arenas Appeals Court granted police protection to the town's bishop, Monseñor Tomas González and

nine others including a priest, human rights lawyer and local journalists and political leaders after they had been warned by ACHA to "Shut up or we'll kill you". The court stated that it was convinced the events denounced were genuine and recalled the links between ACHA and the bomb attack on the Church of Our Lady of Fátima.

In others cases, courts have appeared reluctant to recognise that those threatened are in any danger and have rejected petitions after concluding that there were insufficient grounds to order police protection or to initiate a criminal investigation. In March 1988, for example, human rights lawyers in Valparaiso reported that they had received information about sixty cases of intimidation by ACHA in the previous five months and they had presented 17 petitions for protection to the local Appeals Court on behalf of local human rights workers and community leaders. Only three had been accepted. In November 1987, for example, the Appeals Court had rejected a petition submitted on behalf of Dr Francisco Acevedo after he had been followed and a car tried to run him over. It was only after he was abducted and tortured a few weeks later that the courts finally gave him police protection.

In another ruling, in June 1988, the Valparaiso Appeals Court rejected a petition for amparo submitted by the local branch of CODEPU after a false bomb had been planted near their offices in March this year by ACHA. CODEPU lawyers who work there had also been subjected to repeated death threats by telephone between January and March 1988. The court reportedly rejected the petition on the grounds that the facts were not sufficiently proven but that even if they had been, there were not enough grounds for submitting the petition in the first place. Carabineros are said to have informed the courts that the only proof of the alleged existence of ACHA came from declarations made by opposition members and therefore they lacked credibility.

"The courts are real cemeteries where each dossier is a grave waiting to be reopened" said Father Winfredo Van der Berg in February 1988 after receiving a warning that he would be killed on the 29th February. [9] Over the last few years, complaints were submitted to the courts asking for protection and investigations into a whole series of incidents against him, the radio station he directs in Osorno, Radio Voz de La Costa, and its supporters and workers. "It is our committment to the truth which brings us these problems" [10] said Father Van der Berg, a Dutch priest who has been in Chile for 30 years and whose church radio station aims to reach broad sectors of the community, especially the poor. The attacks included the stoning of the priest's car and home, a bomb attack and shots fired at the radio station which injured a broadcaster, death threats sent to Father Van der Berg in letters and most recently, a firebomb attack against one of the commercial enterprises which advertises on his station.

In spite of the risks involved, human rights workers, church officials and others continue to stress the importance of denouncing such incidents publicly.

"We are not very hopeful that the [courts] will be able to get to the bottom of this" said the Bishop of Punta Arenas, Monseñor Tomás González, when he presented the petition for protection to the local appeals court. "But we believe it is important that we leave a written testimony of the type of things which are happening under this regime." [11]

A SAMPLE OF INDIVIDUAL CASES OF ABDUCTION AND ASSAULT

Trade unionists, members of community organizations in the poblaciones, workers, members of human rights groups, students, and actors are among the more than 100 cases of abduction reported to Amnesty International since January 1987. Each described in their reports to the courts how they were suddenly seized, sometimes in the street, others from their homes, forced into a vehicle and taken away for interrogation or purely as an intimidatory measure. Some victims are simply driven round and round, blindfolded or hooded, in the vehicles in which they are abducted. Some are taken to secret detention centres. Others have been driven to wasteground or other isolated places. Beatings are the most common form of torture but some of those kidnapped have had the initials of clandestine squads scored or burnt into their skin, been forced to consume drugs or alcohol, given electric shocks or burnt with acid, cigarettes or hot metal. In addition, some people have been attacked and beaten in the street or in their homes.

The following are some of the cases which have been reported to Amnesty International in the last 18 months.

Roxanne Labbé, 22-year-old student

Roxanne Labbé was walking down a central Santiago street in broad daylight on 20 April 1988. Suddenly, two men grabbed her from behind, covering her eyes and mouth. She was blindfolded and forced into a vehicle which sped off. After a while they stopped at a building.

"They took me to a room, tied my wrists to a chair and then the interrogation began." She heard an intense noise: "It was indescribable. Sometimes I could hear screams, which sounded as if they were recorded...They beat me. One of them said they had to kill me, then another said they weren't going to do anything to me. They threatened me with a sharp object, something like a piece of glass which they used to inflict cuts on my face and neck." They ripped her trousers and "made very indecent suggestions, warning me that they would do other things if I didn't cooperate..but I didn't have anything to tell them."

After a while, Roxanne Labbé was taken back to the car, driven around and then forced to swallow some tablets. Her captors made her get out of the car and then threw her to the ground. They made me roll around and swallow earth. Then they took off my blindfold and left me." (12) She had been held for approximately seven hours. The incident was the latest in a series of acts of intimidation against her since 1986 and included numerous anonymous phone calls and surveillance. She was also sent cuttings from newspapers where her name was published in the "Deceased" columns.

Mauricio Alejandro Bello Cortes, 22-year-old secretary of the Union of Independent Workers, Commune of La Pintana, Santiago.

Mauricio Bello was intercepted outside the local municipality offices of La Pintana on 11 February 1988. He was forced into a white van by three men in plainclothes who began to interrogate and threaten him. They burnt him with hot metal and played "Russian Roulette" with him. After half an hour he was released. Both he and another official of the union, Patricia Barra, about whom he was interrogated, had received threats days before warning them to give up their trade union activities.

Roberto Morales Pinochet,

Roberto Morales Pinochet's ordeal lasted 15 hours. Abducted on 2 April 1988 from the población where he lives, he was taken to a secret detention centre and interrogated about people in the población. He said he was given electric shocks, and when his captors discovered the scars of a bullet wound he had received during a national work stoppage in 1987 he was interrogated about the incident. His captors warned him to withdraw the complaint about the shooting that he had submitted to the courts.

Lorena Nazal, actress

On 1 March 1988 at 20.30h in Santiago, as she was walking down a Santiago street, she was intercepted on a corner by four men who were travelling in a big, dark car. "Two of them got out and grabbed me from behind. One of them covered my eyes violently with his hand and then I felt them placing a cushion over my mouth.

"Everything happened very fast, so that I could not describe the men who kidnapped me... They immediately forced me into the vehicle, blindfolded me with a handkerchief and set off in a direction I cannot specify, turning frequently"

"Throughout the journey they were very aggressive, threatening me constantly with rape and they beat me in a threatening way. I lost all notion of time, until suddenly the vehicle stopped... Lights were turned on and they made me enter a house. They literally threw me onto a kind of sofa.

There was no noise. One of the individuals told another to "finish with the one next door." Three remained with me... Then they began insulting me, beating and threatening me. They called me a prostitute and linked me with [actress] Alejandra Jiménez, who they described in similar terms. They asked me what I did with her. They talked about the Association of Theatre Students of which I was a member in 1986 and amidst blows they accused me of "being an activist with Alejandra"... At certain times there were long silences, suddenly broken by a blow or loud noises.

Finally they lifted me up and, pushing, kicking and tripping me up they took me back to the car." (13)

Dr Francisco Acevedo, paediatrician, leader of the United Left Coalition in Valparaíso and an active member of the local branch of the Chilean Human Rights Commission.

"At about 21.30h on Monday [30 November 1987] as I was driving along the road between Concón and Viña del Mar, in dense mist, I was intercepted in front by a van which blocked my way, and another vehicle which positioned itself behind my car. Two men got out from the first vehicle one of them wearing a ski-mask Pointing their machineguns at me they ordered me to get out of my car and hooded me. They forced me into the van and handcuffed me to a seat. We set off.

We arrived at an uninhabited area where the rest of the group were waiting. One of them said 'Have you got him?' 'Yes' they answered. They told me they were from ACHA and would not allow communism in Viña. They added that they had tried me and that I was sentenced to death.

They tied me with barbed wire to a tree. 'Firing squad, get ready' said one. I heard a shot and felt a blow to the chest. I realised that I had two seconds of life left between the impact of the bullet and the loss of blood. It was a terrible sensation. In those two seconds, I went through the whole of my life. Then I heard a burst of laughter. 'This time we are not going to kill you, but you've got until 31 December to leave the country' they said. I couldn't say anything because my handkerchief had been pushed in my mouth.

They drove me to another place and repeated that I had to leave Chile. 'And to make sure you know that we are serious we are going to leave you a warning' said one and he shouted 'Surgeon, come here.' Then they cut this cross in my forehead. Blood was pouring from it and they wet my hands several times with my own blood. They made me touch something blunt like a stone, metal objects, perhaps a knife, and some papers. Then they told me to count up to 3,000 and go away." (14)

Jimmy Sarmiento Flores

"[The abduction of] my brother [Jimmy] was simply a way of letting me know that they had something against me," recounted Domingo Sarmiento Flores, member of a local human rights group, in the complaint submitted to the courts after his brother had been abducted by a group of men on 23 November 1987. He was "taken to some wasteground near the Metropolitan cemetery, beaten with weapons and punched while they interrogated him about my alleged political activities... which have nothing to do with my brother..At about 03.00a.m. they released him, warning that they were going to kill me. They also threatened him." (15)

Marigen Palacios Carrasco,

She returned to Chile in November 1987 after 12 years in exile and had been there less than a month when her house was broken into. She and her husband then sold the house but before they had moved out, on 9 December, two men went to the house expressing interest in buying one nearby which was similar.

"I had scarcely closed the door behind them, when the one who seemed most interested grabbed my hair and began to bang my head against the wall, insulting me over and over again and questioning me about where I kept my jewels and the dollars I had brought back with me. When I informed them that everything I had brought back had been stolen, the other one punched and kicked me shouting: 'You've still got other things, so watch out. It'll be worse when the CNI get you, you communist shit.' At some point during the beating I lost consciousness and only came round when my husband found me in the bathtub and I saw his face visibly disturbed by the wounds on my face. When I regained consciousness I realised that a gas tap had been turned on, which gave me a shock as I realised the danger that I had been in." (16)

Alejandro Reyes Osorio, 22-year-old student and member of a local human rights group. On 5 October 1987 he was forced into a white van by two men and a black woollen hood was pulled over his head. He was thrown to the floor, punched in the back and face and paraffin poured all over him. His captors then took off stripped him almost naked, passed a sharp cutting instrument over his buttocks and gave him electric shocks in the stomach area. They forced him to drink alcohol and interrogated him about people he

didn't know and also one of his friends. He was abandoned naked, feeling sick and having lost all notion of time.

Marisol Arriagada Araya, student

Marisol Arriagada Araya arrived at her home in one of the Santiago poblaciones early on 7 September 1987 in a state of shock, her clothes dirty and in disarray. She had been walking for two hours after her kidnapers abandoned her on some wasteground.

"As I was on my way home from the San Luis Parish Church at about 21.00 on 6 September, I was intercepted by a light coloured van. Two men got out and immediately forced me into the back of the van, making me lie face down, pulling my hair and pressing my back down on the floor with their feet. They blindfolded me and tied my hands behind my back. Once they had done this, they beat me severely, especially my legs, and in particular my thighs. They asked me where I 'hid the weapons'. Because I was screaming and sobbing I couldn't answer so they increased the violence...The vehicle had set off immediately after I had been forced into it and only stopped for about 10-15 minutes on two occasions...While they kept on with the interrogation, they threatened to kill me several times, the last time when they abandoned me. At that moment they untied my hands but not my blindfold and left me lying on the ground saying 'leave the girl now, because next time we're not going to free you alive.'" (17)

Maria Cifuentes Villar, hairdresser

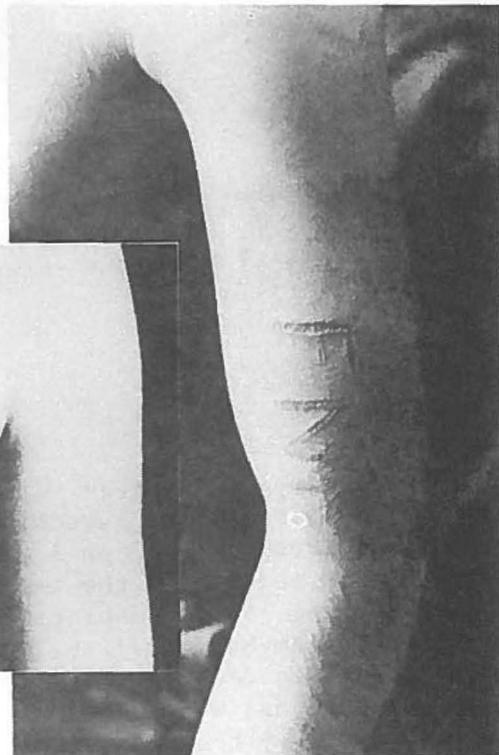
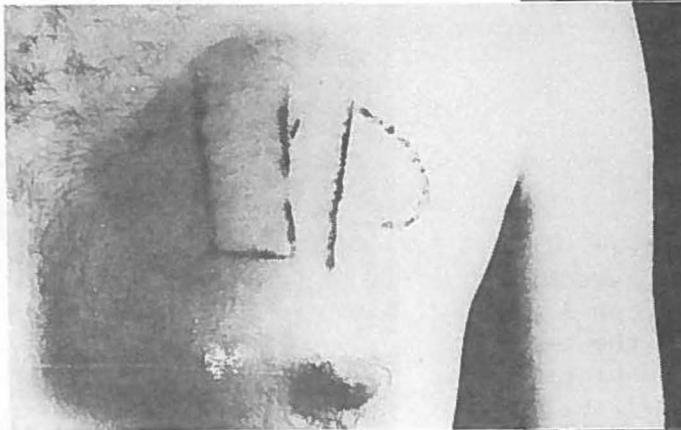
She had just left the hairdressers where she is studying on 15 July 1987 at about 19.30h. "...A young man in a dark brown van without number plates called me over and asked me for an address. I went over without suspecting anything. At that moment he forced me into the car and set off. Inside the van there were three young people who began to interrogate me, asking about people I didn't know. At the same time they punched me. I was thrown to the floor and they burnt my back with cigarette ends, leaving five or six marks which are still visible" she reported in a complaint to the courts in November 1987. Because they had threatened to torture her children she hadn't reported the incident immediately, but decided to do so after unidentified civilians went to her home asking for her in August, September and November, and followed her husband in October. (18)



One of the many demonstrations held in Santiago to press for clarification of the whereabouts of the five political activists who "disappeared" in September 1987. "I will not rest until I know what happened to him" said the father of one of them.



José Cuevas Piñeda participates in a local community building scheme. This photograph shows injuries from acid burns sustained when he was kidnapped in 1987. In June 1988, the burnt head of a doll was left outside he and his wife's home with a warning to his wife, a community leader, that she should "watch out". [Cuidate]



c. Revista Hoy

Letters cut or burnt into the flesh during abduction serve to remind victims of their ordeal, even once it is over.

Punished for speaking before the Pope during his visit to Chile in April 1987....



Alicia Duran Zuñiga, wife of a trade union leader who met the Pope. In May 1987 she was badly beaten by three hooded men and a woman who forced their way into her home.

Mario Mejías Huircán, catechist, abducted from his home on 1 May beaten and punched in the face. "I told them 'You're making a mistake. I am Mario Mejías, the poblador (resident in the poor neighbourhoods) who spoke to the Pope. They beat me even more and told me 'that's why we're beating you.'"



"They seem to think the theatre is dangerous because of its popularity, charisma and its links with the people" said actress Ana González in December 1987 after a couple in a van had threatened her and tried to run her over. Days earlier, her name appeared at the top of a list of 80 theatre workers who were warned they would be killed if they didn't leave Chile. (21)



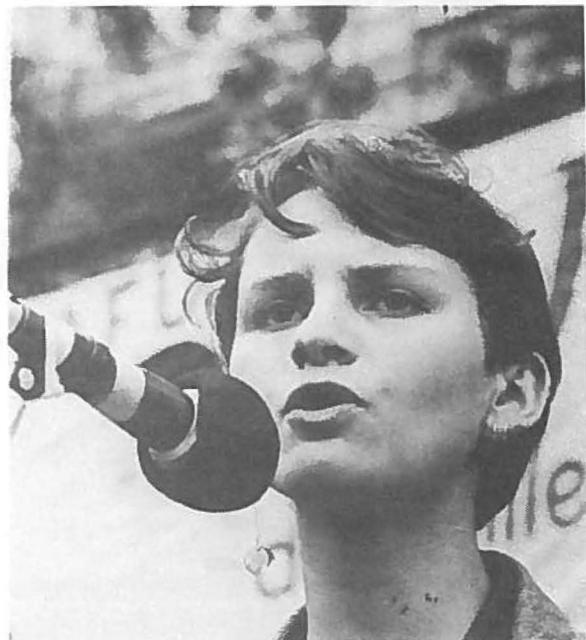
c. Juan Carlos Cáceres



c. Revista Hoy

"I will not allow myself to be threatened by those who hide their faces. We cannot fall into their trap. I will stay in my country and carry on working for what I consider to be just" said Dr Francisco Acevedo after being abducted. (22)

Carolina Toha, one of numerous student leaders threatened with death in 1988.



c. Juan Carlos Cáceres



"It seems not to matter that an armed group want to turn my humble body into a corpse" said Judge René García Villegas, about delays in providing him with police protection ordered by a court. From August 1987 he was subjected to a series of death threats and other acts of intimidation, particularly after a press interview in which he said he had concluded that the CNI were responsible for "terrible tortures". (19)

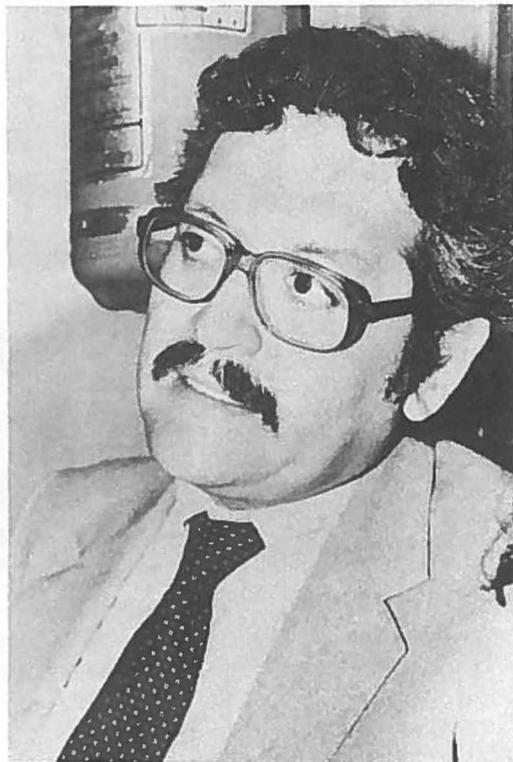


Jorge Richards, the journalist who interviewed the judge. "García has protection. You'll pay for it...You will die" was the message left by intruders who broke into his home in October 1987. (20)

Journalist José Carrasco Tapia (right) and Felipe Rivera Gajardo, two of the four men abducted and murdered in September 1986.

"It is absurd" said lawyer Jaime Hales, "that judge Rojas has to investigate matters which could have been solved in a week. I insist, that here there is political shamelessness and a negligent tolerance which is preventing [the judge] from arriving at the truth."

(24)





Armed men in a van fire shots at pupils from the Colegio Latinoamericano participating in a demonstration in March 1988 to mark the three year anniversary of the abduction and murder of one of their teachers, Manuel Guerrero.



Right, one of the alleged gunmen before the attack.



Student Roxanne Labbe after her abduction in April 1988.



Actors marching through the streets of Santiago in November 1987, in defiance of death threats against 80 members of their profession.

In response to national and international messages of support for its members, the actors' union SIDARTE wrote:

"The truth is that we lack the words to express what your support has meant to us. You have touched us profoundly and have given us the strength at a time of growing alarm. There is no doubt that you have also protected us. Against such hatred and irrationality, solidarity and the constant warning to our persecutors that the eyes of the world are on them are the most powerful defences we can count on."

APPENDIX I

LIST OF CASES OF INTIMIDATION AND HARASSMENT REPORTED TO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL: JANUARY - JUNE 1988

This is a list of 128 cases of intimidation reported to Amnesty International between January and June 1988. The true number of cases is likely to be much higher as information for this period is still being collected. Many cases may also never be reported by victims through fear that threats against them may be carried out. Unless otherwise indicated, the incidents in this list occurred in Santiago.

Abbreviations: CCDH=Chile Human Rights Commission; CD = Christian democrat; Concep = Concepcion; cult = cultural; law = lawyer; PPD = Party for Democracy; Punta = Punta Arenas; PS = Socialist Party; T.U = Trade unionist; Valp = Valparaiso; SERPAJ=Justice and Peace Service IC = Christian Left Party

NAME	SURNAME	PROFESSION	DATE	TYPE OF INTIMIDATION
Patricia	AGUILERA FIERRO	Social Worker/Concep	17/03/88	Beaten by unidentified individuals in the centre of Concepcion. She is regional president of the Association of Social Workers.
Hugo	AGUIRRE	Student leader	14/04/88	Attacked and threatened by a group of unidentified men.
Cristina	AHMADA AMPUERO	Student/Arica (16yrs old)	03/01/88	Abducted by civilians, beaten and threatened with death. Active in local community organizations in poor neighbourhoods.
Tania	ACEVEDO		07/02/88	Death threat from ACHA. Was participating in a hunger strike to call for investigations into five "disappearances".
Miguel	ALFARO YAÑEZ	CODEPU	15/03/88	Individuals attempted to kidnap him. Also received telephone death threats in 01/88.
Carmen Gloria	ALVARADO	Housekeeper	21/04/88	Attacked by three men who entered the home of Dr Eduardo Gonzalez (see below), partially undressing her, and inflicting minor cuts. Subjected to similar attack in March.
Jaime	ANDRADE	Student leader	17/01/88	Received death threat from ACHA. Socialist Youth leader.
Alejandro	ARAYA MEDIOLAZA		02/88	Death threats in name of ACHA. Leader of Coordinadora Juvenil Poblacional, a youth organization in the poblaciones of in Valparaiso.
Julio Antonio	ARAYA TORO	CD member	25/02/88	Threatening letters from ACHA. Active in campaign for free elections.
Alberto	ARENAS	Student leader	03/88	and 12/01/88 received threatening letters.
Elia	ARENAS ARRATIA	Student	09/04/88	Threatened by a group of individuals who beat on the doors and windows of her home.
Hortensia	ARIZABALA	Nurses' leader	02/88	Received death threats, reported surveillance.
Luis	ARNES	Press photographer	11/03/88	Beaten up in street by unidentified civilians.
Bernardo	ARROYO GARABITO	SERPAJ/Temuco	12/06/88	Received death threats in a letter in the name of ACHA. Sr. Arroyo is also a leader of t Christian Left Party and an anthropologist.
Father Luis	BAEZA	Priest	22/03/88	Presented petition for protection because of threats received in name of ACHA over three month period.
Ana Patricia	BARRA GARRIDO	Trade unionist	11/02/88	Threatened via Mauricio Bello Cortes (see below)
Schlomit	BAYTELMAN	Actress	02/88	Telephone threats. In October list of threatened theatre workers.

Mauricio	BELLO CORTES	T.U leader	11/02/88	Abducted, interrogated and threatened. Burnt with hot metal.
Berta	BELMAR RUIZ	Lawyer/PPD leader	18/03/88	Presented petition for protection because of telephone death threats. Previously threatened in January 1988.
Maria	BURGOS	T.U leader	03/03/88	Threatened with death in anonymous letter. President Workers' Union at Catholic University
Octavio	BUOTTO MORENO	CD member	25/02/88	Threatening letters from ACHA.
Rafael	CALDERON	CD leader/Talagante	10/03/88	Unidentified civilians warned him in the street he would be killed.
Felix	CALDERON	CD leader/Talagante	10/03/88	" " " " "
Miguel Angel	CANCINO	Lawyer/Vicaria	10/02/88	Received a letter containing poison. A similar letter had been left on his desk on 6 Feb when his office was raided and money stolen belonging to the Cultural Centre of which he is the lawyer and director.
Reginaldo	CANCINO DIAZ		02/88	Received several threats. Father of two political prisoners.
Ricardo	CARDENAS	Lay church worker	00/06/88	Received a threatening letter warning that he and four others "will have to disappear for ever". [tendràn que desaparecer para siempre] The group of young people belong to the lay workers section of the Diocese of Linares.
Marcos Segundo	CARIZ VILLANUEVA	Worker	15/04/88	and 7 Apr 88 He and his wife received two letters in name of Comando 11 Septiembre that his family would be killed.
Alejandra	CARRERA YENTZEN	Student/Valdivia	14/05/88	Abducted, ill-treated and threatened before being released a few hours later.
Manuel	CASANUEVA	<u>Apsi</u> employee	07/04/88	Intercepted in the street by two men who threatened him and took from him photographic material for his magazine.
Fabiola	CASTRO MALDONADO	Member of youth group.	06/88	Submitted petition to courts with two other members of her youth group after being followed and threatened with rape, death and beatings on numerous occasions. The three are unemployed and live in the poor neighbourhoods of Santiago.
Sister Elena	CHAIN CURI	Nun	28/04/88	Pamphlets with threats and insults were strewn around the block where she lives.
Cecilia	CHINCHON CANALES	Law/CODEPU/Valp.	28/03/88	death threat in letter. 8 Feb, 8, 11, 14 March, telephone threats in name of ACHA.
Carla	CRISTI	Actress	04/02/88	Deceived threatening phone calls at the same time as stones were thrown at her house.
Pablo	CRUZ	Press director/Punta	11/03/88	Death threats from ACHA.
Renato	CRUZAT INOSTROZA	President PPD/Talca	08/03/88	Received series threatening phone calls at his home.
Juana	CUADRADO	Law/CODEPU/Valp.	28/03/88	Death threat in letter. 8 Feb, 8, 11, 14 March telephone threats in name of ACHA.
Joaquim	CURTZE	President CD/Punta	11/03/88	Death threats in name of ACHA. Leader of Christian Democrat Party.
Marisol	DIAZ MURA	Housekeeper	23/03/88	Received death threats in letters. Also in February.
Jose	DIAZ SANCHEZ		16/04/88	Abducted violently from home and interrogated before being released hours later.
Ines	DIAZ VALLEJOS	Teacher	21/03/88	Her house was under surveillance. Parents' home also under surveillance the same week.
Juan	ESPINOZA BELLO	TU leader/Concep.	02/88	Reported receiving death threats and being followed in vehicles. Also attempted kidnap.
Eduardo	ESPINOZA HORMAZABAL		02/05/88	An acid bomb was thrown at his car. Following day, received a phone call from the Comando Hùsares de la Muerte indicating it was a warning that he should stop his public activities.
Daniel	FARCAS	Student leader	03/88	and 12 Jan 88 Received threatening letters.
Claudio	FRANCIA	CODEPU/Valp.	27/01/88	Surveillance began and continued for four days
Flor	FAUNDEZ GUTIERREZ		18/03/88	House raided, furniture destroyed by unidentified civilians looking for her son.
Lorena	GAJARDO CACERES	Member of youth gp.		See case of Fabiola Castro.
Omar	GALVEZ GONZALEZ	Peasant leader	06/04/88	Received several death threats in letters at his home in Llay Llay.

Victor	GARATE	Ex-student leader	05/88	Unidentified individuals visited his family's home, threatened them and warned that their son should leave the PPD.
Monica	GARCIA VIVANCO	Lawyer/Vicaria	26/01/88	She was warned in an anonymous phone call her house would be blown up.
Juan	GELDRES RIQUELME	TU leader/Conc.	02/88	Reported receiving death threats and being followed by vehicles. Also attempted kidnap.
Oscar Eloy	GOMEZ	Teacher leader/Arica	27/04/88	Abducted by three hooded men and badly beaten. Active in campaign for free elections.
Monseñor Tomas	GONZALEZ	Bishop/Punta	11/03/88	Received death threats in name of ACHA.
Eduardo	GONZALEZ JARA	Pres. local human rights group	18/03/88	Received death threat from ACHA for second time in four months. He is president of the local human rights committee and a community leader in the poblaciones.
Dr Alberto	GONZALEZ MARQUEZ	Surgeon	24/03/88	Home raided by individuals with their faces covered. They beat up the housekeeper and destroyed furniture. 15/04/88 attempts were made to kidnap his daughter. 20/04/88 a plate of excrement was left outside his door. 21/04/88 his housekeeper was attacked again.
Alejandro	GUEVARA ZAPATA	Tradesman	02/88	Received letters in name of Comando Nacionalista Vecinal warning him and his family to leave the country.
Sylvia	HIDALGO ROJAS	Nurse	03/88	Received repeated anonymous phone calls asking about whereabouts of her husband. He went into exile earlier in the year. She has also been under surveillance since 22 Feb.
Father Raul	HOGERVAET	Priest	03/88	Received threats in name of ACHA. Both are priests in La Ligua Poblacion.
Jaime Ernesto	IBACACHE BURGOS	Doctor/Traiguen	12/06/88	Received death threats from ACHA. He is also a collaborator with the Chilean Human Rights Commission.
Claudio Alberto	JEREZ VERDUGO	Student leader	16/05/88	Warned by telephone that he and another student leader Ivette Del Rosario Valenzuela did not have long to live.
Juan	JILES	Student leader	03/88	Received death threat.
Pamela	JILES MORENO	Analisis journalist	07/03/88	Threatened with death by the "League Against Literary Contamination" in a letter sent to the editor of <u>Analisis</u> magazine.
Alejandra	JIMENEZ	Actress	02/88	Threatening phone calls. In October '87 list of threatened theatre workers.
Roxanna	LABBE	Student	21/04/88	Abducted, drugged, beaten and crosses scored into her face. Released after several hours.
Maria	LAGOS HIGUERAS	Community leader	06/06/88	The burnt head of a doll was left outside her house with a note warning her to watch out. In May 1987 her husband had been abducted and burnt with acid.
Jorge	LAVANDERO	Ex-senator/CD	28/04/88	Threatened by telephone that he would be badly beaten up as on a previous occasion.
Luis Enrique	LETELIER VALENZUELA	Teacher	23/03/88	Received letter from ACHA warning "The teacher will die, watch out." [El profe morira. Cuidate] A few days earlier, his wife had been intercepted in the street and interrogated about him.
Eugenio	LEIVA	Lay church worker	00/06/88	See case of Ricardo Cardenas.
Nadia	LOYOLA CALDERON	Actress	17/02/88	Received death threat in letter. 18 Feb found dove with its throat slit at her home.
Juan	MACAYA	Doctor	11/04/88	Home raided by unidentified individuals.
Luis	MAIRA	IC leader	25/05/88	ACHA telephoned <u>Hoy</u> magazine and warned that Sr Maira and other political leaders would be killed as vengeance for the death of a policeman. Sr. Maira is president of the Socialist Command for a No Vote (Comando Socialista por el No)
Yolanda	MANRIQUEZ	Judge	03/88	Given indefinite police protection because of continuous threats and surveillance.
Roberto	MANRIQUEZ	TU leader	17/05/88	Warned at gunpoint to leave the province by men who said they were members of ACHA.
Eliodoro	MELO VEAS		20/04/88	Abducted violently from home in Valparaiso, interrogated and released hours later.

Roberto	MORALES PINOCHET		02/04/88	Abducted, taken to secret detention centre, tortured with electric shocks. Released the following day.
Mónica	MORENO	Cult.leader/Valp	03/88	Reported being under close surveillance. President of a cultural centre where several hunger strikes have been held recently.
Celia	MORGUNOSKY GOMEZ	Law/CODEPU/Valp.	22/01/88	and 03/88 Private lawyer's office raided. March /88, telephone threats.
Osvaldo	MUÑOZ	SERPAAJ/Valp.	27/02/88	Firebomb thrown at his home. Also community leader.
Pedro	MUÑOZ	PS leader/Punta	11/03/88	Received death threats in name of ACHA. Lawyer.
Juan Manuel	MUÑOZ GATICA	Businessman	22/03/88	Accused of saying "things against the government" and warned that something would happen to his son. Threats were made in a telephone call in the name of the Comando Jakarta.
Father Jorge	MURILLO	Priest/Punta	11/03/88	Received death threats in name of ACHA.
Jaime	NARANJO	CCDH leader/Linares	/06/88	Threatened by two motorcyclists. The same week, the windows of the CCDH headquarters in Linares were smashed.
Oscar	NAVARRO	Photographer	03/04/88	Beaten as he left his home.
Lorenza	NAZAL SAGLIE	Actress	01/03/88	Abducted, interrogated and beaten. Released after two hours.
Raul	OJEDA	Teacher	24/02/88	House surrounded by unidentified armed individuals. 10 Feb death threat in letter signed by the Comando Nacionalista Vecinal and warning him to leave the neighbourhood. Local leader of the Colegio de Profesores.
Alicia	OLIVA	<u>Analisis</u> journalist	07/03/88	Threatened with death in a letter sent to Analisis editor by League against Literary Contamination.
Rosa	ORREGO OGAZ	Secretary/Valp.	01/88	Intercepted in a park in Valparaiso by 2 men who interrogated her about human rights lawyer Laura Soto with whom she works.
José Miguel	ORTIZ	President CD/Conc.	03/88	Warned in a letter from ACHA that he would be beaten and that his days were numbered.
Heraldo	OVALLE LAFOURCADE	Human rights leader	22/05/88	He reported that he had received threatening letters warning him to stop his human rights activities as leader of a local group.
Dino	PANCANI	Student leader	27/04/88	Civilians attempted to abduct him with Gianco Raglianti. He is a secondary school student.
Pedro	PARODI PINEDO	Lawyer	05/02/88	Received threatening phone calls in name of ACHA.
Mario	PASCUAL	PS member/Temuco	19/05/88	Four individuals intercepted him in the street and warned him he wouldn't be alive when plebiscite took place.
Father Eugenio	PIZARRO	Priest	24/02/88	Received anonymous threatening letter.
Gonzalo	PIZARRO GODOY	Student	05/03/88	Attacked in street by hooded armed men. 16 years old.
Angel	PURATIC	Ex-TU leader/Punta	11/03/88	Received death threats in name of ACHA.
Daniel	RAMIREZ ARQUEROS	TU leader/PS leader/ Calama	00/06/88	Received a death threat from ACHA. The door of his home had been daubed with red paint. Sr Ramirez is leader of a copper miners' union and also a member of the local branch of the Chilean Human Rights Commission.
Abraham	RAMIREZ OLIVA	Youth group member		See case of Fabiola Castro.
Juan	RIVERA CARRION	Community leader	12/06/88	An unidentified individual tried to stab him at a cultural event in his población. He had started receiving threatening phone calls four months earlier, soon after he had been elected president of his local community.
Anibal Nazario	ROSAS ARANCIBIA		06/03/88	Received threatening phone calls in the name of ACHA who accused him of holding meetings in his house.
German	QUINTANA	Student leader	03/88	and 12/01/88 Received threatening letters from ACHA. "Watch out for your life. We're

Gianco	RIAGLIANTI	Student leader	27/04/88	watching you." (Cuida tu vida. Te estamos vigilando) was the message in one of them. Abducted for a few hours and beaten but managed to escape. 16-year-old secondary school student.
Claudio	REYES CANTO	Student	18/02/88	Received letters threatening him with death if he didn't leave the neighbourhood.
Roberto	REYES VARGAS		24/02/88	Abducted/interrogated. 27 Feb, abducted again, beaten in secret detention centre.
Raúl	ROSALES	Lay church worker	00/06/88	See case of Ricardo Cardenas.
Anibal Nazario	ROSAS ARANCIBIA	Retired	06/03/88	Received threatening phone calls from individuals who said they were from ACHA.
María de la Luz	SALAS ALVAREZ	Law/ODEPU/Valp.	28/03/88	Death threat in letter. 8 Feb, 8, 11, 14 March, telephone threats in name of ACHA.
Rocky Tomas	SCARPA	Radio director/Punta	11/03/88	Received death threats in a letter from ACHA.
Cardenal Raul	SILVA HENRIQUEZ	Cardinal	18/02/88	Received letter signed by ACHA threatening him with death.
Carlos	SMOCK	PPD leader/Punta	11/03/88	Received death threats in name of ACHA. Local president of PPD. and regional president of the Chilean Medical Association. See case of Rosa Orrego above.
Laura	SOTO	Lawyer/CCDH/Valp.		
José Miguel	SOZA HERNANDEZ	Actor	02.03 and 04/03/88,	threatened with death in a series of phone calls.
Pedro	STARK TRONCOSO	CD member	06/04/88	Received death threat in letter from Comando 11 de septiembre.
Manuel	SUAREZ	Journalist/Punta	11/03/88	Received death threats in letter from ACHA.
Patricia	TALLONI	Nurses' leader	02/88	Received threatening phone calls, surveillance.
Carlos	TOBAR LEYTON	Journalist	02/04/88	Home raided by unidentified armed men who interrogated the housekeeper and took away documents and furniture.
Carolina	TOHA	Student leader	03/88 and 12/01/88	received threatening letters.
Luisa	TOLEDO		08/03/88	Burning tyre thrown into the entrance to her and her husband's home. Parents of two young people killed by police in 1985.
Sandra	TORRES	Lay church worker	00/06/88	See case of Ricardo Cardenas.
Gerson	TORRES SALAZAR	Student	18/02/88	Taken from home by civilians, ill-treated, released following day.
Julio	VALDERRAMA	TU leader	14/03/88	Reported receiving numerous death threats. President of telephone workers' union.
Ivette	VALENZUELA	Student leader	16/05/88	See case of Claudio Jerez.
Father Winfredo	VAN DER BERG	Priest/Osorno	17/02/88	Received threatening letter from "Comando Exterminador 143 Zona Sur". Director of Voz de la Costa radio station in Osorno.
Nadia	VASQUEZ	Lay church worker	00/06/88	See case of Ricardo Cardenas.
Raúl Aldo	VELIZ FLORES	Miner	02/03/88	Received threatening letter from ACHA.
Rodrigo	VERA	Student leader	26/03/88	Received death threat in letter.
Manuel	VERGARA			See case of Luisa Toledo.
Cesar	VILLEGAS SALAS		17/05/88	Started receiving threatening phone calls in the name of ACHA warning him he had 30 days to live. He had previously been detained for political reasons in February 1988 but was released unconditionally.
Juan	VIVAR	Lawyer/Punta	03/88	Death threats in a letter from ACHA. Human rights lawyer at the Bishopric of Punta Arenas.
Paulina	WEBER UBILLA	Social worker	01/88	Threatened with death by Comando 11 Septiembre.

Appendix 2: Spanish quotations

1. Fue terrible. A lo único que atifíe fue a esconderlo para que mi familia no sufriera.
2. Como una amenaza tiene siempre la posibilidad de que se cumpla, no pude dejar de sentir miedo...tuve la sensación de haber sido golpeada, apaleada. Es algo muy raro porque uno siente que anda con un peso en la espalda todos los días.
3. Tengo miedo a la muerte cruel de estos enemigos ... Yo no se que hacer, con quien protegernos, todo es inseguro, no se sabe si estaremos vivos al otro día y si le pasará algo a mis hijas en el colegio.
4. No han dejado de amedrentarme desde que asesinaron a mi hijo. Todos los meses, a cada rato. La última llamada fue hace algunas semanas. Me dijeron que mi hijo Ignacio, preso político en Concepción estaba muerto y que debía viajar. También me dijeron que estaba muerta mi nuera, presa política..Yo sabía que no era cierto..Querian hacerme daño, querían hacerme sufrir más.
5. El día 12 de septiembre alrededor de las 21.30 horas en circunstancia que transitaba sin compañía por calle Lastarria, sentí de pronto correr a mis espaldas. Casi inmediatamente fui tomado por atrás a viva fuerza e introducido en vilo a un vehículo qu resultó ser un automóvil marca Galant, color naranja. En él habian cuatro sujetos. Fui esposado y rápidamente salimos del lugar. Debo hacer presente que todo esto ocurrió a vía vista de funcionarios de Carabineros de guardia en el edificio Diego Portales.
6. Sinceramente nosotros no queriamos dar a conocer esto porque deseamos evitar que amedrenten a todas nuestras colegas y que afectan nuestra labor gremial, pero creo que esto ya es grave.
7. Quién puede disparar al lado de un teléfono? Los que tienen armas para hacerlo y la seguridad de que si disparan no les va a pasar nada. Se está amenazando para tener a un pueblo bajo el estigma del temor.
8. Hay indicios suficientes para estimar que en estos hechos intervino un grupo uniformado de Carabineros que formaban parte del denominado grupo "Dicomcar" y saliéndose de su órbita institucional formaron una asociación ilícita de hecho..
9. Los tribunales son verdaderos cementerios donde cada expediente es una tumba esperando resucitar.
10. El compromiso con la verdad es lo que nos trae estos problemas.
11. No tenemos muchas esperanzas que se llegue al fondo del asunto pero creemos que es importante que quede testimonio escrito del tipo de cosas que ocurren en este régimen.
12. Me llevaron a una pieza, me ataron las muñecas a una silla y ahí comenzó un interrogatorio.. [un ruido] indescriptible, a veces oía gritos que parecían grabados...Me pegaban y un tipo decia que habia que matarme y otro que no me iban a hacer nada. Me amenazaban con un objeto afilado, algo parecido a un vidrio que me lo pasaron por la cara y el cuello, lo que me provocó heridas....Me hacian insinuaciones muy sugerentes en el sentido que si no hablaba me podían hacer otra cosa..pero yo no tenia qué decir.

Me botaron en la tierra, ahí me hicieron revolcarme y tragar tierra. Después me sacaron la venda y se fueron.

13. Dos de los individuos se bajaron y me tomaron desde atrás; uno de ellos me tapó violentamente la vista con una mano y en igual forma sentí que me colocaban una almohadilla en la boca.

Todo ocurrió muy rápidamente, al punto que no alcanzo a precisar las características de los secuestradores...En seguida me suben al auto y me vendan o amarran la vista con un pañuelo, al tiempo que inician un trayecto, con sucesivas vueltas, cuya dirección no puedo precisar. ...Mientras y durante todo el recorrido, se muestran muy agresivos, amenazan constantemente con violarme y me dan golpes intimidatorios. Pierdo la noción del tiempo, hasta que de pronto el vehículo se detiene. ... En ese momento se prenden luces, me hacen entrar a una casa y me lanzan, literalmente, en una especie de sofá.

En ese lugar no oigo ruidos. Uno de los individuos le dice a otro que "termine con lo de al lado." Tres permanecen allí conmigo. Comienzan entonces las preguntas, insultos, golpes y amenazas. Luego tratarme de "golfa", puta etc. Me relacionan con Alejandra Jiménez a quien se refieren en iguales términos, y me preguntan qué hacía con ella...y entre golpes me acusaban de "militar con Alejandra"...En ciertos instantes hacían largos silencios, cortados abruptamente por un golpe o por ruidos fuertes.

Finalmente me levantan y a empujones y zancadillas me conducen de vuelta al auto. También me dan puntapiés.

14. Eran como las 9 de la noche, venía en mi auto por el camino de Concón a Viña. Había mucha neblina. De repente se me metió delante un furgón grande y me arrinconó. Otro auto se puso atrás. Del furgón bajaron dos tipos uno con pasamontañas y el otro con un casco de operario. Me apuntaron con metralletas. Me ordenaron que bajara del auto y me pusieron una capucha. Me subieron al furgón y me amarraron a una silla. Partimos.

Llegamos a un sitio despoblado. Allí esperaba otro grupo. Un tipo que estaba en el lugar preguntó "Lo traen?" "Si, lo tenemos" respondieron. Me dijeron que eran del ACHA, que no iban a permitir el comunismo en Viña.

Agregaron que me habían juzgado y que estaba condenado al fusilamiento, dijo uno. Con alambres de púas me amarraron contra un árbol. "Preparárense, fusileros" dijo uno. Yo sentí un disparo y un golpe en el pecho. Sentí que me quedaban los dos segundos de vida que hay entre el impacto y el desangramiento. Fue una sensación atroz. En esos dos segundos, recordé toda mi vida. Luego sentí una carcajada. Me dijeron: "Esta vez no te vamos a ajusticiar, pero tienes plazo hasta el 31 de diciembre para dejar el país. No podía hablar porque tenía mi propio pañuelo metido en la boca.

En el mismo vehículo me llevaron a otro sitio. Me repitieron que debía abandonar Chile. "Y para que sepas que es en serio te vamos a hacer una advertencia" dijo uno, y grito "A ver, cirujano, ven!" Entonces me hicieron esta cruz que tengo en la frente. Me chorreaba la sangre. Y en mi propia sangre me mojaron las manos varias veces y me hicieron tocar objetos contundentes. Creo que era una piedra, objetos metálicos -quizás un cuchillo- y algunos papeles. Luego me dijeron "Cuenta hasta tres mil y te vas.."

15. Mi hermano sirvió solamente para que yo me enterara que tenían algo en contra mía"

Lo condujeron a un sitio eriazo cerca del cementerio Metropolitano. Fue golpeado y mientras le interrogaban acerca de mis supuestas actividades políticas. Como lo señalé, mi hermano fue golpeado con las armas y también con los puños. Esos secuestradores conocían cosas de mis actividades, que no se relacionan en nada con mi hermano... Como a las 3 de la madrugada, los secuestradores liberaron a mi hermano. Previamente le dijeron que me iban a matar y también lo amenazaron a él.

16. Apenas cerré la puerta tras ellos, el que parecía más interesado me tomó del pelo y comenzó a estrellarme la cabeza contra la muralla mientras profería insultos reiterados, acompañados de preguntas sobre el lugar en que "guardaba mis joyas y los dólares que había traído". Ante mi negativa, en que les expresaba que todo lo que tenía me había sido robado el otro individuo me dio golpes de puños y puntapiés al tiempo que me gritaba que "tienes otras cosas más, así que andate con cuidado porque con los de la CNI te va a ir peor, comunista de mierda." En un momento de la golpiza perdí el conocimiento y solo lo recobré cuando mi conviviente me encontró en la tiffa de baño y le ví su rostro impresionado por las visibles lesiones físicas que mi rostro ostentaba. ..Además..la llave del gas se encontraba abierta al momento en que recobré el reconocimiento, angustiándome frente al peligro que había corrido mi vida en esos momentos..."

17. El día 6 septiembre en curso, siendo las 21.00 horas y en circunstancias que me dirigía a mi domicilio desde la Parroquia San Luis, fui interceptada por un vehículo parecido a un furgón de color claro semejante al amarillo,..Luego de interceptarme, descendieron del vehículo dos sujetos, los que de inmediato y a viva fuerza me introdujeron en el interior del furgón, poniéndome boca abajo, cogiéndome por el cabello y presionando con pies mi espalda contra el piso, procedieron a vendarme la vista y atarme las manos a la espalda.

Al tiempo de haber hecho esto fui groseramente interpelada y fuertemente golpeada, sobre todo en mis piernas y muy especialmente en mis muslos. Junto con ellos se me interrogó acerca del lugar donde yo "ocultaba las armas". Dado mis gritos y llanto no fue posible que respondiera nada, lo que aumentó la violencia...

Cuando fui secuestrada el vehículo al cual se me introdujo se puso inmediatamente en movimiento y sólo se detuvo en dos ocasiones por unos 10 a 15 minutos.Mientras repetían una y otra vez su interrogatorio, me amenazaron de muerte en varias oportunidades, lo que hicieron por última vez al abandonarme en un terreno eriazo que desconozco. En ese momento me desataron las manos pero no la vista y me dejaron caída en el suelo junto con decirme "suelta la pepa ahora, porque la segunda vez no te soltamos viva."

18. Una persona joven que conducía un furgón de color café oscuro, sin patente me llamó para preguntarme una dirección. Me acerqué confiada; en ese momento me introdujeron a la fuerza al vehículo, el cual comenzó a circular. Dentro del furgón habían tres personas jóvenes, quienes comenzaron a interrogarme, preguntándome por unas personas que no conocía, en medio de golpes de puño. En un momento fui tirado al suelo y me quemaron la espalda con colillas de cigarrillo, dejándome 5 o 6 marcas, las que a la fecha no se han borrado.

19. Parece no importar que un comando armado convierta mi humilde persona en cadáver

20. Garcia tiene protección. Tú lo pagarás la cuenta...Morirás.

21. Parece que al teatro lo encuentran peligroso por el carisma, la popularidad y el enganche de los actores con el pueblo.

22. No me dejaré amedrentar por quienes actúan con los rostros cubiertos. No podemos caer en su trampa. Seguiré en mi país y trabajando por lo que considero justo.

23. Les dije 'Están equivocados. Yo soy Mario Mejías, el poblador que le habló al Papa.' Me pegaron más. Y me dijeron por eso te estamos pegando.

24. Es absurdo que el ministro Rojas deba investigar cosas que podrían haberse resuelto en una semana...Insisto que hay impudencia política y tolerancia negligente que impide llegar a la verdad.

INTERNAL (for AI members only)

AI Index: AMR 22/35/88
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CHILE ACTION NETWORK

INTIMIDATION AND HARASSMENT BY CLANDESTINE GROUPS

CHAN 04/88

IMPORTANT: THIS CIRCULAR IS EMBARGOED UNTIL 0001 gmt 31 AUGUST 1988 WHEN WHEN A REGIONAL PRESS RELEASE WILL BE ISSUED.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Please ensure that all relevant people in the section have received copies for their attention, and that the document is centrally filed for future reference. In addition please undertake as many of the following recommended actions as possible.

1. This action is timed to begin on the 31 August 1988. Its aim is to inform governments and public opinion that in spite of the Chilean government's attempts to improve its human rights record, abuses by clandestine forces linked to the security forces have increased considerably over the last year and resulted in an atmosphere of fear and intimidation. Voters will decide at the plebiscite whether to accept as president a single candidate put forward by the junta. The plebiscite is likely to take place sometime between September and December 1988. Many countries will be sending observers, and are closely following political developments there. Action can be taken until December unless you are otherwise informed.

2. Approaches to Home Governments

Sections/Chile/CHAN coordinators should ensure that the attached document is immediately submitted to their government and also to their government's embassy in Santiago. When approaching home governments, you can suggest that they convey their concern to the Chilean authorities and seek assurances that measures will be taken to end the harassment and intimidation of activists and their families. Note that Amnesty International does not take a position on the legitimacy or otherwise of the plebiscite.

Sections in Europe should note the statement by the European Community of 18 July in which the 12 member governments "stress the need for all measures to be taken so that the [plebiscite] campaign be conducted and the vote take place in a way which guarantees the free expression of the

people's will and in a climate free of violence and intimidation." The statement went on to emphasise that it was essential that the Chilean government restored political liberties and respected human rights if the plebiscite was to be conducted properly. (See attached.)

It is very important also that sections use this document to lobby their representatives at the UN General Assembly which begins in September. Detailed instructions for lobbying will be included in a separate circular to sections about the General Assembly from the Legal Office.

CHAN/Chile coordinators should also ensure that it is submitted to political parties in your country as they are likely to be following developments in the political situation in Chile very closely. Some of them may also be going to Chile to observe the plebiscite.

3. Press and Publicity.

Sections, CHAN/Chile coordinators and CHAN groups should aim to publicise this document as widely as possible by distributing it to the press in their country. CHAN groups should note that press and publicity work should be undertaken BEFORE doing letter-writing.

4. Target Sector Work

Since harassment affects many sectors of the population you should also try to distribute the document to target sectors within your country, urging them both to publicise the information amongst their members and also contact their counterparts in Chile to offer their support in the face of the threats. A few addresses are listed below under "Copies of Appeals" but we can provide a detailed, up-to-date list of addresses of professional associations, trade unions, church institutions, political parties etc.

CHAN groups should also distribute this document as widely as possible in their local communities, to the church, local journalists, trade unionists, women's groups etc. CHAN groups with limited resources could try to make at least two photocopies and distribute one, for example, to a local newspaper and one to your local church or another target sector which you feel would be interested in taking action.

5. Letterwriting to the Chilean authorities.

Letters should preferably be in Spanish, politely worded and make the following points:

- recognise that the government has taken some measures positive for human rights, such as giving the International Committee of the Red Cross access to detainees in police custody and signing international conventions against torture;

- express dismay at reports that activities by clandestine groups have been allowed to proliferate and have created an atmosphere of fear and intimidation; cite examples of cases mentioned in the text of this document. You may want to focus in particular on people who have been harassed because of their campaign work against the plebiscite.

- express concern also that in spite of hundreds of petitions and complaints submitted to the courts, not one case has resulted in the bringing to justice of those responsible.

- urge that the government takes urgent measures to end harassment by clandestine forces so that politicians, human rights activists, trade unionists, journalists and many others can express their views and carry out their professional and other legitimate activities without fear of threats, torture and even death.

NB: Your letters should not take any position on the legitimacy or otherwise of the plebiscite

CHAN coordinators should divide the following addresses up between groups so that a few letters are sent to each:

Sr Ricardo Martín Díaz
 Presidente, Comisión
 Asesora del Ministerio del Interior
 en Materia de Derechos Humanos
 Teatinos 251
 Santiago, Chile
 (Govt. human rights advisory body)

Sr Ricardo García
 Ministro de Relaciones
 Exteriores
 Palacio La Moneda
 Santiago, Chile

Regional Military Commanders: in sections where there are only a small number of CHAN groups, letters to Santiago, Valparaíso and Concepción should be given priority as these are the areas where most of the harassment has been reported.

Mayor General
 Sergio Badiola Broberg
 Intendente Región Metropolitana
 Moneda esq. Morandé
 Santiago, Chile

Brigadier General
 Helmut Kraushaar Scheuch
 Intendente II Región
 Arturo Pratt 384 P2
 Antofagasta, Chile

Capitán
 Mariano Sepúlveda Mattus
 Intendente V Región
 Libertador O'Higgins
 esq Melgarejo
 Valparaíso, Chile

Mayor General
 Julio Bravo Valdes
 Intendente I Región
 Av. Costanera s/n P2
 Iquique, Chile

Mayor General
 Eduardo Ibañez Tillería
 Intendente VIII Región
 Anibal Pinto 442 P1
 Concepción, Chile

General de Brigada Aérea
 Jorge Iturriaga Moreira
 Intendente X Región
 Puerto Montt, Chile

Brigadier General
 Mario Navarrete Barriga
 Intendente XII Región
 Bories esq. José Menéndez
 Punta Arenas, Chile

Brigadier General
 Alejandro González Samohod
 Intendente XI Región
 Claro Solar s/n P2
 Temuco, Chile

6. Copies of appeals:

CHAN coordinators should ensure that all of the following addresses received at least one copy of an appeal sent from your country.

Dpto de Derechos Humanos Federación de Colegios Profesionales Esmeralda 678 Santiago, Chile	Comision Nacional "Justicia y Paz" Erasmus Escala 1822, piso 3 Santiago, Chile (National Justice and Peace Commission)
Comando Nacional de Trabajadores Santa Mónica 2015 Santiago, Chile (National Workers Command, a confederation of many trade union federations)	Radio Cooperativa Antonio Bellet 223 Providencia, Santiago (Independent radio station)
	Comision Chilena de Derechos Humanos Huerfanos 1805 Santiago, Chile

and to the following branches of the Comisión Chilena de Derechos Humanos (CCDH) in the provinces:

Sres CCDH Gallo 495 Arica, Chile	Sres CCDH Arturo Prat 542 Antofagasta, Chile	Sres CCDH Manuel Bulnes 351, Of 82 Temuco, Chile
Sres CCDH Pagnano 630 Punta Arenas, Chile	Sres CCDH Blanco 694 Valparaiso, Chile	Sres CCDH San Martin 857 Concepción, Chile

More detailed information about some individual cases can be found in: AMR 22/31/88: Arrest and harassment of journalists in 1988; a detailed case study of Fresia Mellado can be found in AMR 22/30/88: Harassment of Women: The Case of Fresia Mellado. Further information about the five people who "disappeared" in September can be found in AMR 22/01/88: "Disappearances: Five New Cases" and the follow-up document AMR 22/26/88. These documents can be submitted together with attached paper to target sectors and others who might be interested.

DISTRIBUTION

This document is being sent by the IS directly to all sections, Chile|CHAN coordinators, press officers, and professional groups.

FOR INFORMATION

**EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION
STATEMENT BY THE TWELVE ON THE PLEBISCITE IN CHILE
ATHENS, 18 JULY 1988**

The Twelve reiterate their hope for an early and orderly restoration of democracy in Chile and recall their attachment to free and democratic elections in that country, as expressed in their declaration of 9 October 1987. They are convinced that restoration of democracy in Chile would contribute to strengthening civilian rule and stability in Latin America.

Taking note of the forthcoming plebiscite, the Twelve wish to stress the need for all measures to be taken so that the campaign be conducted and the vote take place in a way guaranteeing the free expression of the people's will and in a climate free of violence and intimidation.

In particular, the Twelve believe that for the proper conduct of the plebiscite it is essential that the Chilean government without delay lifts the states of exception, restores political liberties, respects human rights and ensures freedom of information and opinion.

