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EXCISE

June 2, 1967

Mr. William Ball
Asst. Sec., Leg.-Intergov. Affairs
Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Ball:

Enclosed you will find correspondence I recently received addressing a state matter over which your office has jurisdiction, and I wanted to take this opportunity to forward it to you for your consideration.

As you know, it is my policy to provide whatever assistance I can to my constituents, so any information you are able to furnish, or a copy of your response, would be most appreciated.

Should you feel it appropriate to reply to me directly, I would appreciate your referring to [redacted]

With kindest regards, I am

Most sincerely,

Lanton Chile
LANTON CHILES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by *Ray* DATE DCI 3 1988

- RELEASE
- EXCISE
- DENY
- EO or PAC Assumptions
- Non-responsive info.

TS authority to: (b)(6)
 CLASSIFY as _____ OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADR

Re: concerned about reports of harassment of church workers in Peru

REC'D JUN - 8 AM 3 35
FBI/IN/P/WI

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DECLASSIFIED

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13 APR 87

Senator Lavien Chilcs

Dear Senator Chilcs:

We want to be sure that you are aware of Amnesty International's URGENT ACTION appeal 097/87 (copy enclosed) regarding alleged harassment of church workers in Peru.

We have just sent airtel letters to the three listed below with an expression of our concern at the alleged harassment of the workers, with a request to let us know the charges, if any, against the members of the institute, and with an appeal to take all possible measures to guarantee the safety of these persons.

Presidente Alan Garcia
Presidente de la Republica del Peru
Palacio de Gobierno
Plaza de Armas, Lima, Peru

Sr. Abel Salinas
Ministerio del Interior
Ministerio del Interior
Plaza 30 de Agosto 160
San Isidro
Urb. Corpac
Lima 27, Peru

Sr. Alan Wagner Tizon
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Jr. Ucayali 363
Lima 1, Peru

In addition, we sent copies to the following:

Comision Andina de Juristas
Los Sauces 286
Lima 27, Peru
(legal & human rights group)

Ambassador Cesar G. Atala
Embassy of Peru
1700 Massachusetts Ave NW
DC 20036

We urge your help with this appeal. Amnesty International asked us to send appeals at once; they asked us to check with the Colorado office weekdays 9-6 Mountain Time if we wish to send appeals AFTER 30 MAY 87. (POB 1270, Norderland CO 80466-1270, phone 303 440 0913.)

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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AL 14 January 1987, 1300Z, SUBJECT ACTION appeal 000/87

13 JAN 1987

Full report of harassment of church workers

AL 14 January 1987, based on reports of the harassment of
members and employees of the Instituto de Estudios
Rurales, IER (Institute of Rural Studies) in the city of Ayaviri,
Puno department.

According to reports, workers from the institute are being
accused by the security forces of membership of the Sendero
Luminoso guerrilla group and are under constant threat of
detention or disappearance. The reports indicate that the
director of IER traveled recently to Lima to request the
Minister of the Interior to provide guarantees for the
physical safety of his staff.

The IER was created by the Catholic church of Ayaviri 15
years ago, its main activity being to provide technical advice
to the peasants in the Puno region.

Allegations of IER links with Sendero Luminoso would appear
to be entirely unfounded as several of their members, including
its director, have reportedly received death threats because
of their support of the peasants' opposition to this guerrilla
group.

During the last few months Sendero Luminoso columns
have reportedly tried to enter the Puno region but have failed
to recruit members. The large majority of the peasant in this
department are members of the Departamental de Campesinos de
Puno (Puno Dept. Peasants Organization), which has had the
support of IER. IER staff and leaders of the peasant movement
are reported to have received numerous death threats
from Sendero Luminoso.

Unlike several other areas where guerrilla groups are active,
Puno has not been put under emergency legislation and is
not governed by a political-military command. In January 1987
however, the government created a new combined (military-
police) force, the Unidad Tecnica Antisubversiva (UTA), to
operate in Puno. By the end of the month, 250 troops were
reportedly sent to Puno, some 50 are said to be in Ayaviri.

In January 1987, AI initiated an action on behalf of over
40 peasants detained on 14 January in Puno. The organization
(AI) later learned that all these detained had been released
without charges.

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