



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 December 1981

Dear Mr. Evans,

Thank you for your letter of 8 December about the visit to this country of Sr. Miguel Kast, Chilean Minister of Labour and Social Security.

Sr Kast was invited by Canning House and the British Overseas Trade Board to visit London in order to address a Business Seminar on Chile on 16 November. He came in place of the Chilean Minister of Finance, who had originally been invited to the Seminar, but who had to cancel his visit at the last moment.

Sr Kast's visit was intended to promote our trade with Chile which, as you know, has never been interrupted. The Government does not believe that our trade should be restricted only to those countries of whose internal policies we approve. At the same time, the issue of human rights was not ignored during the visit. Richard Luce took the opportunity of his meeting with Sr Kast on 17 November both to raise human rights questions in general and to express our particular concern over the case of the Anglo-Chilean dual national, Mr William Beausire.

You also mention the question of Chile at the United Nations General Assembly. An important objective of our policy on Chile in the United Nations, as elsewhere, is to maintain effective and constructive pressure on the Chilean Government to improve their human rights performance. In accordance with this policy, our representative voted in favour of a Resolution in the Third Committee of the 36th United Nations General Assembly on 3 December, 1981 which expressed

/concern

Chile.

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23/12



concern at certain aspects of Chile's human rights record, urged the Chilean authorities to respect human rights in accordance with their international obligations and invited the UN Human Rights Commission to extend the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on Chile for another year. At the same time, in an explanation of vote, our representative also pointed out that, while wishing to express our continuing concern over human rights in Chile, we had reservations both about the selective treatment of Chile in the United Nations generally and about some of the wording of this Resolution in particular. He also welcomed the paragraph in the Resolution which looked forward to the day when conditions in Chile had improved to the point where the Special Rapporteur's mandate could be terminated.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd)

MT

Moss Evans, Esq



Chile



# Transport and General Workers Union

R. 12.

TRANSPORT HOUSE · SMITH SQUARE · WESTMINSTER · LONDON S.W.1P 3JB.

OUR REF AME/VW/JA

TELEPHONE 01-828 7788 TELEGRAMS TRANSUNION LONDON SW1 TELEX No 919009

YOUR REF

pps. ✓ A.H.

7th January 1982

The Right Honourable Mrs Margaret Thatcher  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
S W 1

Asl 13/1

Dear Prime Minister

h-u.

Thank you for your letter of ~~22nd~~ 8th December in reply to mine of 8th December, concerning the visit of the Chilean Minister of Labour and Social Security to this country.

Yours sincerely

GENERAL SECRETARY





Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

17 December 1981

Dear John,  
Chile

same  
RMJ 17/12.

As requested in your letter of 11 December, I am enclosing a draft reply, for the Prime Minister's signature, to a letter from the General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union about the recent visit to Britain of the Chilean Minister of Labour.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

yours ever  
Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing St



P1 Type

DSR (revised)

DRAFT: ~~minutes~~/letter/teleletter/despatch/note  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM: The Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO: Moss Evans Esq  
General Secretary  
Transport and General Workers' Union  
Transport House  
Smith Square  
Westminster  
London  
SW1P 3JB

Your Reference

~~Top Secret~~

~~Secret~~

~~Confidential~~

~~Restricted~~

Unclassified

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

Thank you for your letter of 8 December about the visit to this country ~~of~~ Sr Miguel Kast, Chilean Minister of Labour and Social Security.

CAVEAT.....

Sr Kast was invited by Canning House and the British Overseas Trade Board to visit London in order to address a Business Seminar on Chile on 16 November. He came in place of the Chilean Minister of Finance, who had originally been invited to the Seminar, but who had to cancel his visit at the last moment.

Sr Kast's visit was intended to promote our trade with Chile, which, as you know, has never been interrupted. ~~As~~ *The government does not believe that* ~~I am sure you will agree,~~ *should* our trade ~~cannot~~ be restricted only to those countries of whose internal policies we approve. At the same time, the issue of human rights was not ignored during the visit. Richard Luce took the opportunity of his meeting with Sr Kast on 17 November both to raise human rights questions in general and to express our particular concern over the case of the Anglo-Chilean dual national, Mr William Beausire.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

/You



You also mention the question of Chile at the United Nations General Assembly. An important objective of our policy on Chile in the United Nations, as elsewhere, is to maintain effective and constructive pressure on the Chilean Government to improve their human rights performance. In accordance with this policy, our representative voted in favour of a Resolution in the Third Committee of the 36th United Nations General Assembly on 3 December, 1981 which expressed concern at certain aspects of Chile's human rights record, urged the Chilean authorities to respect human rights in accordance with their international obligations and invited the UN Human Rights Commission to extend the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on Chile for another year. At the same time, in an explanation of vote, our representative also pointed out that, while wishing to express our continuing concern over human rights in Chile, we had reservations both about the selective treatment of Chile in the United Nations generally and about some of the wording of this Resolution in particular. He also welcomed the paragraph in the Resolution which looked forward to the day when conditions in Chile had improved to the point where the Special Rapporteur's mandate could be terminated.

*WJ 28/12*



chile



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

11 December 1981

Chile

I enclose a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from the General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, expressing the union's grave concern at the recent visit to Britain of the Chilean Minister of Labour.

I should be grateful if you could provide a draft reply for signature by the Prime Minister.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Caroline Jutsum (HM Treasury) and Nicholas McInnes (Department of Trade).

A. J. COLES

R.M.J. Lyne, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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MFJ

11 December 1981

I am writing on behalf of the  
Prime Minister to thank you for your  
letter of 8 December.

Your letter is receiving attention  
and a reply will be sent to you as soon  
as possible.

AJC

Moss Evans, Esq.

*EW*





# Transport and General Workers Union



TRANSPORT HOUSE · SMITH SQUARE · WESTMINSTER · LONDON S.W.1P 3JB

OUR REF AME/VW/JA

TELEPHONE 01-828 7788 TELEGRAMS TRANSUNION LONDON SW1 TELEX No 919009

YOUR REF

8th December 1981

The Right Honourable Mrs Margaret Thatcher  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW 1

*RM*

Dear Prime Minister

I feel compelled to write to you in my capacity as General Secretary of the TGWU to express the union's grave concern at the recent visit to Britain of the Chilean Minister of Labour, Miguel Kast.

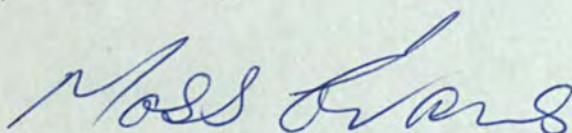
During his stay, he met with a number of Government Ministers - Mr Jock Bruce-Gardyne, Mr Peter Rees and Mr Richard Luce. However, I believe that their discussions centred mainly on the improvement of bilateral relations and the promotion of commercial links, and the vital issue of human rights was virtually ignored.

We feel that visits of Chilean Ministers to this country in general do nothing to further the cause of human rights in Chile. In particular, we condemn this visit of Sr Kast, given the repressive labour legislation in Chile, which he, as Minister of Labour, operates.

Furthermore, we hope that Britain will express its condemnation of the violations of human rights in Chile by supporting the forthcoming resolution in the UN General Assembly, and particularly that Britain will support a resolution that condemns the violation of human rights, re-mandates the Special Rapporteur, and resolves to keep the question of human rights in Chile on the agenda for the next session of the General Assembly.

We hope that you will give this matter your urgent consideration.

Yours sincerely



General Secretary