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Prime Minister
if we protested

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

every time a third world
dictator locked people up, it
would be never-ending.

8 October 1985

But I am not sure this is a
good time to be isolated in the EC.
Dear Charles, And he seems to have locked up
some Christian Democrats, which is
pretty silly.

Chile: Proposed EC Demarche

You wrote on 9 September about the proposed statement
by EC Foreign Ministers on 10 September to welcome the
National Accord in Chile.

Agree to low-key EC demarche?

Since then the Chilean Government has responded to
the demonstrations in several Chilean cities on 4/5 September,
which marked the anniversary of Allende's election, with
widespread arrests. The Presidency has now proposed an early
EC demarche to the Chilean Government to protest at the
arrests and to call for a change in policy.

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The last EC demarche to the Chilean Government (a protest
against the detention of three teachers) was made by the
Presidency on 5 March to the Chilean Charge d'Affaires in
Rome. Since then the only joint EC action on Chile has been
the EC Foreign Ministers' statement of 10 September on the
National Accord. At an EC Latin American Working Group on
12/13 September there was strong pressure from Spain, Ireland,
Italy and Denmark for an early demarche to the Chileans about
the Government's actions following the demonstrations. We
argued strongly that the best role for the Ten would be to
encourage the reconciliation process in the wake of the National
Accord.

Since that meeting the Government has arrested and
imprisoned large numbers of Chileans, including Bustos and
Seguel - two leading trade unionists, and several students
for allegedly inciting acts of violence at the 4/5 September
demonstrations. Many of those charged are leading Christian
Democrats who signed the National Accord: they did not
support the 4/5 September demonstrations and indeed joined
Cardinal Fresno, the coordinator of the National Accord, in
publicly appealing for non-violence and non-participation. It
appears that Pinochet is now attempting to destroy the Accord
by discrediting its supporters, inter alia by charging them
with responsibility for the demonstrations. Such provocative
and indiscriminate action against the supporters of the Accord
conflicts with the Chilean Foreign Minister's assurances to
the Foreign Secretary on 25 September that progress now under
way in Chile would lead to the full restoration of democracy
in 1989.

This really
is double
standards.
What about
Myanmar
Iraq etc.
I hope
FC's will
make their
point very
strongly
over-riding

/The



The Spanish proposal of 1 October for an EC demarche to protest against the Chilean Government's recent actions has already been supported by Belgium, Italy and Luxembourg. The FRG is likely to do so. Pinochet's recent action in singling out supporters of the National Accord rather than those with Communist affiliations in reprisals over the 4/5 September demonstrations displays an unfortunate new departure. If we oppose the current initiative for a low-key demarche, some at home and abroad may try to suggest that we alone are defending the actions of the Pinochet regime.

The Presidency has called for comments on the proposal by midday 11 October. The Foreign Secretary recommends that we should not object to this joint initiative with our partners.

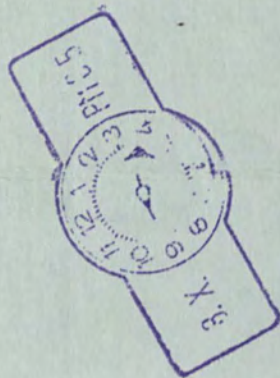
Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

CHILE: Relations; Sept 1979.



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bc PCV

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

13 October 1985

See letter,

CHILE: PROPOSED EC DEMARCHE

Thank you for your letter of 8 October about the proposed demarche to be made by EC Ambassadors to the Chilean Government about their actions following the recent demonstrations.

As I told you on the telephone, the Prime Minister takes the view that this is a case of double standards. Although the Chilean Government's activities are regrettable, there are unfortunately a large number of other governments who act in a very similar way but to whom the EC never addresses demarches about their conduct. The Prime Minister hopes that the Foreign Secretary will take an opportunity to make this point. Meanwhile, she agrees reluctantly that the demarche to the Chilean Government should go ahead.

Yours sincerely
Charles Powell

Charles Powell

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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