

Wash - D.C.



ARGENTINE COMMISSION for HUMAN RIGHTS

COMISION ARGENTINA POR LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS (CADHU)

Washington, D. C. Information Bureau

March 8th, 1977

International Offices:
Geneva
Rome
Paris
Mexico City

Dear friends:

As you know, there have been some important developments with respect to the campaign to cut off all military and economic aid to the Argentine Military dictatorship. The Carter Administration reduced the Security Assistance to Argentina, and the Argentine Military "rejected" another portion of these funds.

Without a doubt these are positive developments for which human rights advocates, solidarity groups, church organizations and individuals, can take substantial credit. However, our failure to respond adequately and to follow up on these developments could turn this partial victory for us into a success story for the Argentine Military and their supporters in the U.S. government.

We are sending this packet of information and campaign instructions only to those groups and organizations which have expressed their commitment to this issue. Obviously, not all who receive the packet will be able to carry out every aspect of the campaign. We urge you however to engage wholeheartedly in this effort which we are confident will produce the desired results. Here are some of our recommendations for the campaign in the next 6 to 10 weeks:

1. Enclosed you will find a detailed update on the current status of the Security Assistance Program, how much is still in the Foreign Assistance request, what is left in the "pipeline", the importance of the campaign, etc. We recommend that you reproduce this information for local mass distribution among your own constituency.

2. Also enclosed there are two sample letters addressed to Rep. Yatron and Senator Humphrey, which we have chosen as targets for a mass campaign of letters with copies to Rep. Zablocki, and Senator Sparkman, Chairmen of their respective Committees. These letters should also be mass reproduced for local distribution. We specially encourage you to get church, trade union and academic people to send similar letters individually written and preferably on organizational stationary..

3. We have prepared a full list of the members of the House International Relations Committee, and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. These Members of Congress will eventually vote or influence the vote on the issue. We ask you to write each member of these committees on the issue, as an organization, ie as AISC, NICH, NAHRA, etc. We think it would be best if each committee developed its own approach to the letter. We feel it is especially important that committees not specifically working

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on Argentina carry out this part at least of the campaign.

4. We want to encourage local pressure to Members of Congress. If any of the Senators or Representatives in the Committees are from your district or State, we recommend that you organize local visits to their offices, or phone calls, or letters. If they are not members of the two key Committees, you should ask them to contact the respective chairmen.

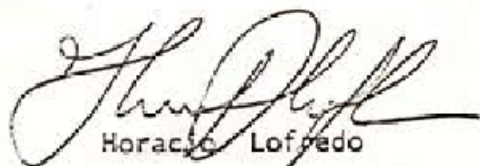
5. We recommend that the basic campaign information for mass distribution be published in local newspapers, organizational newsletters, church bulletins and included in mailings to your constituencies.

6. We would like to be able to evaluate the campaign as it develops nationally over the next few weeks. We ask you to write us as soon as you decide which aspects of it you will be in a position to take on. Later, as the campaign unfolds, keep us informed of the response you are getting.

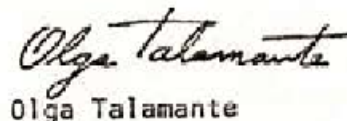
We realize that this campaign does not necessarily fall within the scope of your current activities. However, we want to stress that the implications of a decisive victory in this case will extend well beyond Argentina, and will have an impact on work being done in Solidarity with all other countries under repressive military regimes in Latin America.

Ultimately, our work here in Washington depends on the kind of mass pressure that only you can generate through your work in the communities, work places, churches, and schools. We thank you in advance for your valuable support and remain,

fraternally yours,



Horacio Lofredo



Olga Talamante