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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
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STUDY OF REPORTED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE,  
WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL,  
INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

Note verbale dated 7 April 1977 from the Permanent Mission  
of Chile to the United Nations Office at Geneva  
addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations Office and other international organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (Division of Human Rights), and has the honour to transmit to him, herewith, an official statement by the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Chile, dated 11 March 1977, concerning the "Dignidad" agricultural settlement. This statement contains a denial of certain tendentious reports concerning activities in the settlement.

In view of the foregoing, the Permanent Mission requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations (Division of Human Rights) to circulate the statement by the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany as an official document at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

The Permanent Mission of Chile takes this opportunity to reiterate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (Division of Human Rights) the assurances of its highest consideration.

STATEMENT TRANSMITTED BY THE EMBASSY  
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY  
AT SANTIAGO DE CHILE

In view of the reports recently published in the press regarding the presence of Chilean political prisoners in the agricultural settlement and charitable institution known as the "Colonia Dignidad", which is situated near Parral and is inhabited by Germans, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany communicates the following:

"After the publication of the Allana Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the United Nations at the end of last year, I visited 'Colonia Dignidad', on 16 November 1976, in order to verify the statements made in that Report. In the course of my visit I saw nothing which would confirm the accuracy of those statements. Nor could an examination by German services of aerial photographs covering the whole area of the 'Colonia Dignidad' confirm the statement that in or near the 'Colonia Dignidad' there is a camp 'in a specially equipped place underground'."

Santiago, 11 March 1977.