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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 11 March 1977 from the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations Office at Geneva present, its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit to him the attached statement relating to agenda item 5 of the thirty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights entitled, "Study of reported violations of human rights in Chile, with particular reference to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

The Permanent Mission of the United States would be grateful if the Secretary-General would circulate the statement as an official document of the Commission on Human Rights.

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America takes this occasion, etc.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT POLICY STATEMENT ON THE STUDY OF THE REPORTED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

The United States supported and acted as co-sponsor of the draft resolution contained in document E/CN.4/L.1355 presented by the delegate of Sweden on the report of the ad hoc Working Group on Chile. The United States expresses appreciation to the Working Group that prepared this report and to the many non-governmental organizations that have contributed to the collection of material for it. The United States also expresses satisfaction that the Chilean Government has co-operated in many ways with the Commission on Human Rights and the International Red Cross and expresses the hope that the Chilean Government will both continue and increase that co-operation. The United States regrets, however, that the Chilean Government has not yet seen fit to permit the Working Group to visit Chile. While the United States support of the resolution and the report that stands behind it speaks for itself, and while the United States believes that the resolution is a reasonable one which properly focuses on genuine human rights concerns, the United States believes also that full recognition must be given to improvements that have occurred in the human rights situation in Chile in the recent past, notably the release of virtually all political prisoners held without charge.