

# Chile to Allow Access To Jailed Torturers

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By Joanne Omang

Washington Post Foreign Service

SANTIAGO, May 14—Chilean President Augusto Pinochet has for the first time authorized access in jail to convicted torturers as some evidence that Chile does not condone mistreatment of political prisoners.

The graying army general agreed in an interview to "facilitate" such access by The Washington Post, although he said he had given up hope of convincing the world he is not "bloodthirsty."

In a jovial mood, the uniformed Pinochet struck few new themes in a 35-minute interview Monday at his tightly guarded, modern government headquarters office. He said polls showed his popularity had risen "in spite of everything" since he took office as head of the four-man military junta that overthrew the leftist government of the late-President Salvador Allende in September 1973.

During "the first days and months" of his government, Pinochet said, "there were some activities, and some people exceeded [their duties] in these actions and now they're in jail, including an officer.



PRESIDENT PINOCHET  
... "normal, tranquil"

Did you know that there is an officer in jail?"

Pressed for evidence, he authorized an interview with the officer, which took place at the Santiago penitentiary on Tuesday. The officer, former army Lt. Juan Martinez Oyanedel, turned out to have been charged with killing a civilian in an automobile accident and not with any crime relating to torture.

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The president said, however, that he would "facilitate" other interviews "so you can talk with the people about why they have been tried, how they haven't done their duty."

The promise is a break with the position of lower government officials that making public any such violations of law would destroy the Chilean tradition of keeping the disciplining of military men quiet to avoid dishonoring the service and lowering morale.

Critics and several investigatory commissions have alleged that torture is an integral part of government practice and that it has affected thousands of persons and caused hundreds of deaths.

The general reiterated his oft-repeated charge that millions of dollars in Communist

propaganda in the world press is responsible for Chile's bad reputation.

"They'll only receive your article when you say you've been with Pinochet, his hands are stained with blood . . . If you say I met Pinochet and he's a normal person, tranquil, who talked to me with humor, they won't publish that."

He estimated his domestic opposition at one-third of the country's 10 million people and said he had given up trying to convert them. "I'm working to convert the children, instead," he said.

"At the moment, those who are restive are the Communists," he said. He rejected the possibility of elections or an end to the formal state of siege "in the near future" because of possible "Marxist infiltration" into the government. He said domestic turmoil in the United States was the result of such infiltration.

"If you don't realize it, you're going to fall . . . like a rope fruit," he said. "Russia is going to dominate the entire world."

The general referred often to domestic order in Chile, contrasting it to widespread riots and violence toward the end of the Allende period. He displayed a sheaf of photographs of rioters and contrasted them with shots of smiling crowds listening to him speak. "Does that look like unpopularity?" he asked.

"The state of siege doesn't cause any problems," President Pinochet went on. "All it provides is tranquility."

Renewed every six months since the coup, the state of siege allows arrest and detention without formal charge, permits unlimited transfer of prisoners, and imposes a 1 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. curfew. "It makes husbands come home early . . . at 12 o'clock people know they have to leave. There are no visitors who dawdle," Pinochet said.

Pinochet pointed out that he ordered and last week signed a modification of the law "to keep abuses from occurring."

The change restores a tradi-

tional Chilean law requiring that charges be filed within five days of arrest and that relatives be notified within 48 hours.

The president offered several possible explanations for a particular allegation of torture involving an agricultural technician, Luis Lausic Glasnovic, 23, whose relatives have filed several pleas and writs of habeas corpus in the Santiago court of appeals. The following dialogue ensued:

**Pinochet:** "Look, I'm going to tell you what happened. There are three things. One, he might have reappeared with another name. Two, that he left. Let me tell you. When the famous (United Nations) commission on human rights was going to come here, there appeared in the court a pile of habeas-corpus petitions this high. The commission thought the government must have half the country in prison.

"It's logical to think that way. We are naive. I'm naive because I never thought I was going to be the president of the republic. I intended to go home and live in peace all my life. Now I am president, and I act like one. I have no ambition, really.

"Well, these famous habeas corpus petitions made a strong impression on the commission. When they left—and now I tell you why we are naive—I told them to check, and they

found the names of people who didn't exist. They didn't exist!"

**Omang:** "In this case, the reason I say it is that I saw the body."

**Pinochet:** You saw the body. Was it shot, tortured?"

**Omang:** Tortured, apparently, yes."

**Pinochet:** "Where was he tortured. What marks did he have?"

**Omang:** "Wounds, large wounds, on his head, here, bruises on the face..."

**Pinochet:** "Well, he might have turned over in a car, like two who were escaping the other day and were killed."

The president made a telephone check with what an aide described as a computerized system listing all prisoners and reported that Luis Lausic had never been detained by any of the five government security agencies.

"He could have been killed in (street) combat," Pinochet said. "Sometimes they (leftists) meet a police patrol and they fight... The leftists shoot and throw bombs, everything, and my people also die..."

"Secondly, the man could have had an accident, and his family, being Communist, took advantage of this, because they even take advantage of rape. The other day, a worker raped a little girl, and they said she had been raped by the authorities. We picked up the worker, and he said he had done it... And then we appear as the depraved degenerates."

# Chilean's Family Blames Authorities in His Death

By Joanne Omang

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SANTIAGO, May 14—The morgue attendant led the hunched young man across the wet tile floor to the block of nine white square metal doors. He opened the bottom middle one and pulled out a tray on which lay what used to be a human being, agricultural technician Cedomil Luis Lausic Glasinovic.

The young man, a friend of Lausic's cousin, nodded. "We'll have to close the casket," he said. His fists were clenched. Luis Lausic, 28, single, died sometime last month of head wounds. But his family learned only last week that he was dead.

In papers filed with the Santiago Court of Appeals, the family has charged the National Intelligence Department (DINA) and the court itself with responsibility for Lausic's death. They say he was arrested April 4 by the Military Intelligence Service, transferred to a reputed torture center called the Villa Grimaldi and killed.

President Augusto Pinochet said in an interview yesterday that the military government has no record of ever arresting anyone by the name of Cedomil Luis Lausic Glasinovic. The wounds, he said, might have resulted from an automobile accident or from a fight, and the death used by opponents of the government as an excuse to make false charges. He promised an investigation.

Lausic's cousin, Teresa Stipetich Glasinovic, 22, came 1,750 miles from her home in Punta Arenas, at Chile's southern tip, to file

a writ of habeas corpus on April 9. She asked the court of appeals to find out where the Military Intelligence Service had taken Lausic.

"He'd been unemployed since September 11," she said, referring to the day in 1973 that Pinochet and the army overthrew the leftist government of Salvador Allende. In her filing, she said the intelligence officers also arrested the daughter of Lausic's landlady who happened to be at home when the arrest occurred.

Lausic's mother filed a second writ, on April 22, saying she had learned "unofficially" that her son had been seen in the Villa Grimaldi, used by the DINA, at 3200 Calle Jose Arrieta in Santiago. The detention, she said, was "not only illegal but very dangerous" for her son. She filed a third writ May 5 saying the case was urgent, that her son was in grave danger.

On May 8, church authorities sent word to the family that Lausic's body was in the morgue. It had been there, said an attendant, since April 9, five days after his family said he was arrested.

In her final plea, filed May 9, Lausic's mother accuses the court of responsibility for her son's death and asks that the DINA be investigated. The court, she said, had only asked various agencies for reports and papers "as if it were a common bureaucratic procedure."

The funeral was Saturday. "He had no party membership, no affiliation," said his cousin. The family, which emigrated from Yugoslavia two generations ago, seemed stunned. "I still don't believe it," the cousin said.