

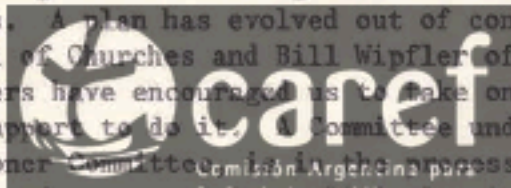
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COFFLA
Chile Refugee and Political
Prisoner Meeting
P.O. Box 8685
Washington, D.C. 20011
March 20, 1974

Pastor Monti
Parana 489
2 piso 9
Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA

Dear Pastor Monti:

There is concern among many groups that up to now there has not been any coordination of a systematized effort to organize the information about refugees and political prisoners from Chile. Various groups throughout the United States, Latin America, and Europe have done some prisoner, refugee, safe haven, embassy list compilations, but nothing to our knowledge has been done thus far on a comprehensive ongoing basis. A plan has evolved out of conversations with Chuck Harper of the World Council of Churches and Bill Wipfler of the National Council of Churches. They and others have encouraged us to take on this work and are giving us some financial support to do it. A Committee under COFFLA, the Chile Refugee and Political Prisoner Committee, is in the process of putting together this plan for coordinating and systematizing possible prisoner and refugee lists. Our purpose is to centralize and provide up to date information that could be disseminated as widely as needed for further international political organizing in aiding political prisoners and refugees.



The following outlines the process we have in mind:

1. Top priority will be given to political prisoners - those detained in approximately 45 detention camps, those reported or thought to be arrested, and names of those whose whereabouts are unknown and/or are being pursued.
2. The committee will serve as the central coordination point for all information. From here it will be distributed through 10 or 12 centers which will hold the information. The most dsensitive information will be kept only in Washington but with a secure means of distribution upon request. The amount of highly sensitive material will be limited to lists of relocated refugees in other countries and other smaller classifications. Most all other material will be distributed over a large area through the following centers:

U.S.A.	Common Front For Latin America (COFFLA) National Council of Churches (NCC)	Harry Strbarsky William Wipfler
Geneva	World Council of Churches (WCC)	Chuck Harper
England	Amnesty International	Roger Plant
Canada	Latin American Working Group	John Foster
Cuba	Comite Chileno de Solidaridad con la Resistencia Antifacista	Sergio Politoff

Paris Comite de Solidarite
 England The Committee for Solidarity with
 the People of Chile
 Berlin Komite Solidaritat Mit Chile
 Sweden Chile Solidarity Committee
 Rome Chile Democratico
 Buenos Aires

Alain Joxe
 Michael Gatehouse

 Clarita Muller-Plantenberg
 Lucio Flavio Regneira

3. The material will be distributed not in lists, but in an already made card file system (thin paper instead of thick cards) ready for use upon arrival at each center. Then, as changes are made regarding individuals' status, the entire list will not be reprinted, but new individual cards will be sent out indicating the necessary changes. In this way each center will maintain a complete up to date system of information and be able to disseminate locally from their center.
4. The communication system among centers will be done through individuals within the above named groups. It will be systematized and confidential. The task of each group will be to 1/ further distribute information from your centers' card file system to a series of secondary groups and individuals who will use the information, and 2/ to gather other up to date information you may have and channel it back to the center group here in Washington for distribution to other centers. All work must be done with strict security measures taken regarding who is receiving what kind of information.

Our purpose is to centralize information, to achieve widest possible dissemination, and to relieve others of work duplication that they may not have time and/or resources for.



There are a number of immediate tasks:

- Please respond to us as soon as possible regarding the above system, your willingness and ability to cooperate as one of the core center groups, and any suggestions you may have regarding the proposed system. We would also appreciate any other suggestions of individuals and/or groups you think might be able to cooperate with us.
- Please send us immediately all information you may have on refugees, political prisoners, etc. regardless of any previous duplication. This information will be sorted out immediately by the Washington group and put into a card file system. Each center will then receive a copy of the system, all done on paper-like cards and instructions on how to use it. The system is totally dependent on your sending us all available lists and information you may have.

The horrendous repression of the Junta is at least somewhat responsive to international pressures and public opinion. We don't want to "lose" any of the thousands of Chileans who are being held - the unknown people, the "little men" who spent themselves building a new society and forming "el hombre nuevo". Their efforts must not be lost.

We look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible so we can move ahead immediately on the urgent question of political prisoners in Chile.

Venceremos!
Harry Strharsky
 Harry Strharsky