3FP88- 18

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

October 13, 1988

The Honorable
Harry Barnes
United States Ambassador to Chile
United States Embassy
Santiago, Chile

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

We are writing with three purposes in mind:

First, we want to congratulate you for your distinguished service as our Ambassador to Chile. You have been an able and effective advocate for human rights and for the restoration of democracy in that country. During your term as United States Ambassador in Santiago you have stood for that which is best about America, and you have yourself done much to advance the cause of freedom in Chile. As American citizens and as members of the United States Senate, we are grateful for your service.

Second, we would like to relay -- through you -- the following message to the people of Chile.

We congratulate the people of Chile on their success in holding a free and fair vote on October 5, and we applaud their decision to bring an end to military government and to begin the transition to democracy.

The plebiscite of October 5 was an historic milestone in the Chilean people's march back to democracy. The result of that plebiscite -- an overwhelming vote -- is a tribute to the Chilean people's abiding commitment to human rights and the rule of law.

During this coming period of transition, we hope that all parties in Chile will work to foster an environment in which democracy can flourish. We hope that the government will release all political prisoners and terminate all orders of internal exile. In support of human rights worldwide, we hope that the government of Chile will publish the law enacted in 1976 which gives full legal effect to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

And finally, through you, Mr. Ambassador, we want to applaud the work of the international observer delegations, including those sponsored by the National Democratic Institute and the U.S. Committee for Free Elections in Chile. Those observers played a vital role in guaranteeing that the conduct of the plebiscite was fair. They made an important contribution to the success of the electoral process inside Chile on October 5.

We know that the October 5 plebiscite was just a first step, but we also believe that it was an important first step. We will be watching developments inside Chile during the coming months, and we will continue to look for ways to support the full and final transition to democracy in Chile. To that end, we pledge that, when democracy is returned to the people of Chile, we will take immediate action to support the normalization of relations between our two peoples, between our two governments, and between our two military establishments. We pledge further to urge our government to provide political, economic and diplomatic support for the people and government of Chile once democracy has been returned to that land.

Respectfully,

Dave Durenberger

Christopher J. Dodd

Christopher J. Dodd

John F. Kerry

John F. Kerry

Terry Sanford

Timothy E. Wirth

Paul Simon

Claiborne Pell

les, page 4
Allogi.ms
Daniel Patrick Moynihan
Danier Fatt ick Moyninan
Auj Smalley
Bill Bradley
0-11:
Die Vilson
Pete Wilson
Janul mm
Daniel K. Inovye
1112
James J. Exon
2.
Quer seus
John Heinz
LA MIGHT
Hovard M. Metzenbaum
Arten spei
71 An
Ted Stevens

Alth Ma Connell  Mitch McConnell	Barbara A. Mikulski
Hoyd Bentsen	- Grank R. Lautenberg
Jim Sasser	Dale Bumpers
Kent Connad	alan (. Dixon
Pete V. Domenici	Hendell brd. Wendell H. Ford
John Glenn	J. Bennett Johnston