

El Salvador Parish-to-Parish Committee
Holy Trinity Church
3513 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007
January 31, 1994

Mr. George Lister
Bureau of Human Rights and
Humanitarian Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

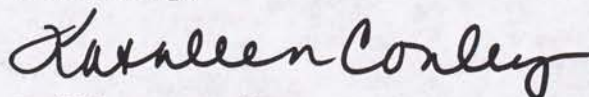
Dear George,

Thank you very much for meeting with our delegation from El Salvador on Thursday, January 13, and explaining the U.S. human rights policy. All three delegates from our sister parish, Maria, Madre de los Pobres, were appreciative of the time you spent with them -- Jorge Ramirez Cucchia, director of the day care and nursery school program that our church supports; Maria Edit Ulloa, a college student and secretary to Maria Madre's parish council; and Jose Anibal Mancía Flores, a member of the parish's youth council. As you may remember, their interest was so great that at least one of them was on the edge of the chair with excitement! They were particularly appreciative of your suggestions on how to follow up on their interest through Amnesty International and through the Human Rights Officer at the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador. Later that day, they did go to Capitol Hill to the Amnesty International office and made contact with Carlos Salinas, who has responsibility for Central America.

The delegation's visit to you was a highlight of their stay. That night, one commented that he had changed his ideas about the United States in the few days he had been here. Before, he said, he thought of the United States as "el enemigo" but he now saw that some people in the U.S. Government were trying to do good things.

I do not know if it is common for State Department officers to both talk to and listen to people outside the current power structure in foreign countries. From our experience, we think the exchanges such as that between our delegates and yourself are beneficial and should be encouraged.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Conley,
Chair

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