

Buenos Aires, May 28th. 1990

Dear Dr. J. Axe:

I doubt you can remind me. We were first met in 1982 at Chapadmalal (while Argentine army was installed at Malvinas) and some years later we met in Bariloche.

Mainly in the first opportunity, besides talking about incommensurate phases we have talked about some more general subjects; I can remember that you recommended a book which really shocked me by that time, it's name was something like "The fate of earth",

I want to call your attention on a particular, and really macabre, situation with which argentinians are faced now.

I'm enclosing a clipping from the newspaper . I don't know whether you have been informed that the severe human rights violations occurred in our country during the military dictadure have been investigated and some of its responsables were condemned; but some posterior special laws (Punto Final and Obediencia Debida) during Alfonsin's period and last year indult signed by the President Menem, have allowed that most of convict officers were set free and only the principal heads of the "Proceso" remain in prison. But now a new step towards absolute impunity seems imminent, President Menem using his condition of ex-prisoner, seems to be ready to forgive this symbolic people (Videla, Massera, Galtieri, etc) in the name of all the argentine people .

The idea of all of us who are working in different human rights groups is to oppose ourselves to this indult; we think it will be of great help if different international groups make evident their disapproval. That's the reason why we are asking to politics, intellectuals, scientists, religious and economic groups from abroad to send a letter or telegram to Dr. Carlos S. Menem

President of the Argentine Republic
Balcarce 50
Buenos Aires
ARGENTINA

with a text of the following type:

"We urge no pardons for military officers guilty of human rights violations"

with the corresponding signatures.

Of course this suggested text can be changed and/or particular considerations from the group can be added.

Some of the groups at the same time they send the note, publish it in an argentine newspaper. Moreover it's useful to send a copy of the note to someone here (it can be to me or to any human rights group) in order to have an idea of how many people had been interested in the subject, and besides to try that some periodist publish it as a new.

I and an appreciable number of argentinians will appreciate if you can divulge this solitude. If you have any doubt or difference, please let me know.

I want to apologize for the english style used in this letter, but it's not easy for me to express feelings in other language than spanish.

Many, many thanks for any help you can give us in this job.

Cordially yours,

Hilda Lanza