

December 13, 1989

Alfredo Cristiani
President
Republic of El Salvador
San Salvador, El Salvador

Dear Mr. President:

I would like to take this opportunity to apprise you of the recent appointment by Speaker Thomas Foley of a Democratic Task Force to monitor progress with regard to the investigation of the tragic murder of the six Jesuit priests and two civilians -- as well as other related human rights matters. I have been selected by the Speaker to serve as chairman of this task force.

I anticipate that this committee, in addition to gathering relevant information available in the United States, will travel to El Salvador as part of its agenda.

I am encouraged by the fact that you have forcefully pledged to bring to justice those responsible for the recent murders. You certainly have my strong support in such efforts.

I would greatly appreciate your assistance and cooperation as the task force looks into this matter. I intend to remain in close contact with you and Ambassador Salaverria throughout our investigation.

Mr. President, I have great respect for you and your commitment to ending the war and bringing true democracy to the people of El Salvador. The intent of this task force is to help in those efforts. I welcome your comments and recommendations.

Best wishes to you and your family during this holiday season.

Sincerely,

JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY