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Institution:	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
File Number(s):	Case No. 1735
Session:	Thirtieth Session (16 - 27 April 1973)
Title/Style of Cause:	Universities v. Bolivia
Doc. Type:	Decision
Decided by:	President: Dr. Justino Jimenez de Aréchaga (Uruguay) Vice-President: Dr. Carlos A. Dunshee de Abranches (Brazil) Members: Professor Manuel Bianchi (Chile); Dr. Gabino Fraga (Mexico); Dr. Robert Woodward (United States); Dr. Genaro R. Carrio (Argentina); Dr. Andrés Aguilar (Venezuela)
Dated:	16 - 27 April 1973
Citation:	Universities v. Bol., Case 1735, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.32, doc. 3 rev. 2 (1973)
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[1] Case No. 1735, September 14, 1972, denouncing the violation of the right to the benefits of culture (Article XIII of the American Declaration and Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights) by the Government of Bolivia, specifically that:

- i. The Government of Bolivia decreed the closing of the universities, whose enrollment totaled some 50,000 students, promising that they would be reopened by February 28, 1972.
- ii. Following a series of decrees and resolutions, the universities remained closed in September 1972, more than a year after their closure.

[2] By a note dated October 10, 1972, the Commission requested the Government of Bolivia to provide the pertinent information, in accordance with articles 52 and 44 of the Regulations. It decided, at its Twenty-ninth Session, to postpone consideration of the case until the expiration of the period stipulated in Article 51 of the Regulations.

[3] In a note dated October 25, 1972, the Government of Bolivia replied, forwarding to the Commission two pamphlets issued by the Bolivian Ministry of Information and Sports in which the circumstances surrounding and the reasons for the closing of the centers of study are set forth.

One of the pamphlets recounts the political events that had taken place in Bolivia since 1967 and the other summarizes a series of events related to public order and the actions of students and subversive elements seeking to gain control of the national universities of Bolivia.

[4] In a communication dated December 6, 1972, the Secretariat sent the claimant the pertinent parts of the information provided by the Government of Bolivia and, pursuant to Article 38 of the Regulations, requested additional information on the acts denounced.

That letter was returned by the post office, inasmuch as the claimant had moved without leaving a

forwarding address.

[5] In view of the foregoing, the Commission, in examining the status of the case at its Thirtieth Session (April 1973), decided to file it, without prejudice to reopening its examination should the claimant complete the denunciation within a reasonable period of time.

[6] That period continuing until December 31, 1973, the case was filed without further action.