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Institution:	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
File Number(s):	Communication No. 1868
Session:	Thirty-Sixth Session (6 - 24 October 1975)
Title/Style of Cause:	Rolando López Alegría v. Chile
Doc. Type:	Report
Decided by:	President: Dr. Andrés Aguilar (Venezuela) Vice-President: Dr. Carlos A. Dunshee de Abranches (Brazil) Members: Professor Manuel Bianchi (Chile); Dr. Gabino Fraga (Mexico); Dr. Justino Jimenez de Aréchaga (Uruguay); Mr. Robert F. Woodward (United States); Dr. Genaro R. Carrio (Argentina)
Dated:	6 - 24 October 1975
Citation:	López Alegría v. Chile, Comm. 1868, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.37, doc. 20, corr. 1 (1975)
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[1] 1868, of August 20, 1974, denounces the following:

- a. The arbitrary arrest of Mrs. Rolando López Alegría, in his family home on April 23, 1974.
- b. The removal of that individual first to "Tejas Verdes", then to the "Estadio Chile" and finally to "Tres Alamos" camp.
- c. In "Tres Alamos", the prisoner was allowed to receive visitors on only two occasions, for five minutes each time, during which he stated that he had been the victim of physical and mental pressures.
- d. Since the date of the arrest and during curfew hours, the claimant had been visited periodically by individuals dressed in civilian clothing who appeared at her residence and submitted her to various forms of abuse (including rape).
- e. On the night of July 15, 1974, during one of the alleged visits, the claimant was tortured through use of electric shock, her wrists were slashed and she was tattooed with the emblem of the "hammer and sickle" on the left thigh; she was told that she was being marked that way in order to "get Communism out of my system."

A photograph of the claimant was attached to the denunciation, showing the Communist emblem on the left leg.

[2] In a note of September 24, 1974, the Commission requested the Government of Chile to provide the appropriate information, in accordance with Articles 42 and 44 of its Regulations.

[3] The Commission studied this communication during its thirty-fourth session (October 1974) and in view of the fact that the Government of Chile had not replied to its request for information filed on September 25, 1974, it decided to repeat that request. However, this decision never materialized since the Government of Chile, through Note No 18122 received at the Commission on October 25, 1974, when the session had already concluded, replied to that request for information.

[4] Therefore, in order to continue to process the case, the Commission transmitted the pertinent parts

of that reply to the claimant.

[5] The Commission continued its examination of this case during its thirty-fifth session (May 1975), together with the information provided by the Government of Chile. It decided the following:

- a. To request the Government of Chile to kindly report whether it intends to release Mrs. Rolando López Alegría, arrested by virtue of the provisions on state of siege or whether, should there be charges, to bring him to trial, and
- b. To file that part of the communication on the status of Mrs. López Alegría.

[6] Pursuant to point a of this decision, a note was sent to the Government of Chile on August 6, 1975. The claimant was informed of this decision on that same date.

[7] Subsequent to transmittal of that note, the Commission received a note from the Chilean Government (No 13433, of July 14), reporting that Mrs. López Alegría had been released, as shown in Official Notice 2550/5834 of SENDET, of October 3, 1974.

[8] Therefore, on August 8, another note was sent to the Government of Chile with regard to this and other cases being processed to the effect that it should disregard the note sent on August 6, 1975, except for the text of paragraph b thereof. In a communication dated September 9, 1975, the claimant was informed of these measures.

[9] During the thirty-sixth session (October 1975) the Commission studied the status of this case and decided to request the Government of Chile to provide information on the status of the proceedings ordered by virtue of the denunciation filed by Mrs. López Alegría, as reported in the note sent by the Government of Chile on October 23, 1974, correcting the error made in the note sent by the CIDH on August 6; clarifying that the proceedings had been prompted by Mrs. López herself and not by the Government of Chile against her.

[10] Pursuant to this decision, a note was sent to the Government of Chile on October 24, 1975.