

10-8-1999

Extradition Ruling on Augusto Pinochet a Victory for Human Rights, Says Expert on Former Dictator and Chile

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls

Recommended Citation

"Extradition Ruling on Augusto Pinochet a Victory for Human Rights, Says Expert on Former Dictator and Chile" (1999). *News Releases*. 8374.

https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls/8374

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in News Releases by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact frice1@udayton.edu, mschlangen1@udayton.edu.

UNIVERSITY of



DAYTON
1850-2000

Oct. 8, 1999
Contact: Jim Pickering
pickering@udayton.edu

NEWS TIPS

EXTRADITION RULING ON AUGUSTO PINOCHET A VICTORY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, SAYS EXPERT ON FORMER DICTATOR AND CHILE

DAYTON, Ohio — A London magistrate's ruling today that former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet should be extradited to Spain to stand trial on charges he ordered the torture of political opponents during his rule is an "absolute victory" for human rights organizations all over the world, said Mark Ensalaco, a University of Dayton associate professor of political science and author of the soon-to-be-released book *Chile Under Pinochet: Recovering the Truth* (University of Pennsylvania Press).

"As someone who has written extensively about the Pinochet regime and taken the position that he is culpable of the accusations against him, I am obviously pleased by the decision," he said. "This is a tremendous precedent and should be a warning to other war criminals."

The 83-year-old general is accused by a Spanish judge of heading a campaign of torture and murder against opponents during his 17-year dictatorship. He was arrested Oct. 16 in London while vacationing.

Ensalaco maintains in his book that Pinochet was complicit in the "enforced disappearance" of thousands of Chileans and an unknown number of foreign nationals.

"Here's a man who led a military coup in violation of the country's constitution, presided over a bloody regime and who operated completely outside the rule of law," said Ensalaco, director of UD's international studies program.

"The international community can never lose sight that Chile was ruled by a man who, as a matter of policy, deliberately murdered his own citizens, whom he perceived to be political enemies," said Ensalaco, executive director of the Inter-American Forum on Human Rights, a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization dedicated to human rights in South America. "Finally, justice will be served."

- 30 -

For media interviews, contact **Mark Ensalaco** at work (937) 229-2761 or at home (937) 432-6772. For a review copy of Ensalaco's book, please contact **Bruce H. Franklin** at (215) 898-1674 or via e-mail at bfrankli@pobox.upenn.edu.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
300 College Park Dayton, Ohio 45469-1679
(937) 229-3241 (937) 229-3063 Fax
www.udayton.edu