



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OPERATIONS MISSION TO EGYPT

CAIRO, EGYPT

November 13, 1954

12, SH. EL TOLOMAT

Dr. Ignacio Gonzalez
Decano Escuela de Medicina
Universidad de Concepcion
Concepcion, Chile

Dear Ignacio:

I received two letters from you recently and wish to thank you for your interest in arranging for my return to Chile. I have not answered before due to changes in my present plans. As you recall, I told you that I had resigned from my work in Egypt effective last month. I was requested to stay and I agreed to do so until early next year or at the most ten months from now. I presume that you have talked to Dr. Aviles as he spent sometime in Cairo during his recent trip to Europe. He knows of my wishes and I am sure that he will do what he can to assist you, Sottero, Dr. Garretón, and other friends in making some suitable plans which will be acceptable to everyone.

If it could be arranged that the Servicio Nacional de Salud could pay me a salary of 50,000 pesos monthly and the Faculty of Medicine would make it possible by giving me the necessary licensure to practice medicine in Chile, the arrangement would be most satisfactory to me. It is very difficult to calculate what the cost of living is in Chile at present, but I have heard from many people that it has increased considerably. As I have investments there naturally it would be less expensive if I had to pay rent, etc.

The other thought I had in mind is that if the Chief of the Servicio Nacional de Salud would request through President Ibanez to our Embassy in Santiago for my services to work with the organization that, of course, would be the most ideal arrangement. I feel reasonably sure that if the President talks to the Embassy and the request is made officially, then my Government would take action to have me transferred there. I would like to make it clear that my only interest would be to work with the Servicio Nacional de Salud in developing their hospital program, and I would not be interested in working directly with the Departamento. In other words, I would be requested as a specialist which is in keeping with the policy of the present program of the Foreign Operations Administration. I do not know what your connections are with President Ibanez, but, as you recall, he tried everything to keep me in Chile even contacting personally the Department of State in Washington. If you think it would help Dr. Urzua of the Chilean Army could assist in this matter

as he contacted President Ibanez requesting that I stay in Chile before being transferred to Egypt. I have forgotten his first name but I am sure you know of whom I am speaking.

Obviously, if you feel it is desirable to make such a request it would have to be done with considerable diplomacy and tact and the only manner in which it would be effective would be on the highest level possible. I would not like to have it known that I had written to you in this regard only because it would probably handicap any action that you might wish to take.

Betty and the children are getting along very well. Patricia has grown considerably and is almost as tall as her mother. Teddy shows great promise in certain fields particularly art and we are extremely concerned about their schooling. The schools here are not what we feel are in the best interest of the children. We are looking forward to the time when they can be put into better institutions. They have a great desire to return to Chile and often mention it.

I hope that the economic changes regarding the exchange control will help in stabilizing the currency and that conditions will begin to improve.

Betty joins me in our very best regards to you, Mary and the family and all our friends in Concepcion and Santiago.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Theodore I. Gandy
American Embassy
Cairo - Egypt