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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 24, 1990

Mr. John F. Geisse

Indianapolis, IN

Dear John:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to Cardinal Hickey along with the editorial on El Salvador from the Indianapolis Star. I appreciate hearing from you.

With regard to the current controversy surrounding military assistance to El Salvador, I believe that placing limits on aid would send the wrong signal at a time of great instability in that nation. In my opinion, such restrictions would legitimize attempts by leftist guerrillas, who have failed to raise support for their cause at both the ballot box and through armed conflict, to overthrow the freely elected democratic government.

The Christiani government has attempted in good faith to negotiate a settlement and improve El Salvador's human rights record, despite radical elements on the left and the right which have hindered this process. It is my hope that the opposition factions will reach an agreement with the Christiani government to bring about an end to the decade long civil war.

Thanks for contacting me. I hope you will continue to inform me of your concerns.

Sincerely,



Dan Coats
United States Senator

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