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Für Deutsch

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"His chest was full of machine- gun bullets" and ...

~~next~~

On the 11th of September my husband was due to sing in the Technical University, in Santiago; on the opening of an exhibition about the horrors of a Civil War. We heard on the radio what was happening, but ^{that} he decided ^{that} he had to go to his place of work which was the University. He left the house in the morning of September the 11th. He ~~XXXXXX~~ ^{called} ~~XXXXXX~~ ^{phoned} on the afternoon of September the 11th, telling me he would have to stay the night in the University because of the curfew. I afterwards knew that at the time he phoned me, the university was already surrounded, but he told me he would try to get home next morning. He didn't come home, because the university was entered by the military on Wednesday the 12th of September and the 600 hundred teachers and students who were inside were taken prisoners, Victor among them. I had no news of him until I heard on the Television that the University had been surrounded. I had no news until the afternoon of the 13th of September when I had a telephone call from a ^{girl} ~~girl~~ whose husband had been taken in the Technical University and taken to the Estadio Chile. Her husband had managed to get out and she had for me a message from Victor. That message said that he thought he would not be able to get out of the Stadium but I should be brave and take care of our children and myself. I had no more news of him. On those days that followed as I am a ~~british~~ ^{british} subject I went to the british Embassy to ask for help. They told me that they could help me, they couldn't help Victor because he was not a british subject. They could ask for his whereabouts. There was nothing I could do. I waited at home until the 18th of September in the morning. I was visited by a young man who came to me from the city morgue and he told me that Victor's body had been recognized among the hundreds of anonymous bodies in the morgue. He told me that we should be quick to go back there and to try to reclaim the body, because it had already been there more than two days. And it was liable to be taken to a common grave. I accompanied him to the morgue and I was taken in a side door. I saw there hundreds of bodies, hundreds of

bodies of Chilean workers and students. Most of them with bullet wounds. Some of them with their hands still tied behind their backs. [We looked for Victor's body downstairs. We couldn't find it, the passage we had to go upstairs to this part of ~~this passage~~ where the offices which was also full of dead bodies. Victor's body was there among ^{another} those of students.] There must have been at least a hundred bodies packed into this passage. I recognized his body. His clothes were all torn, bloody. His trousers were down, his underpants were cut with knives, his hands were hanging from his wrists, his face was all bloody. His chest was full of machine-gun bullets and he had a big hole on his right hand side. [I was taken downstairs, and on a paper that had come ^{the} with ^{with} the body, which was an anonymous body, it said that his body had been found on the street in the district of Renca. Because it seems they took the bodies outside of the Stadium and left them lying about in the streets ready to be picked up afterwards by the vans with which the army collected the bodies. While I was waiting there, at the city morgue, to be allowed to take my husband's body out to bury it, there ^{were} ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ a continuous stream of these closed military vans ~~which took~~ that came to the morgue and entered the subterranean, bringing more bodies.] Well, I say I was lucky in a way, because I knew what had happened to my husband, I was allowed to bury him. ~~He should~~, I think, have been just ~~fixing~~ disappeared as so many others did. The day after that, that is Wednesday the 19th of September, his death was announced on the TV, as though it had been natural death. They said that his body had been buried privately, accompanied by his relatives. I think that's all.