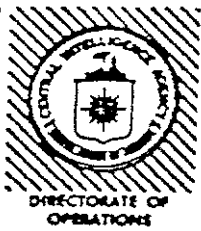


1-79

CLASS

EXTIONS

~~SECRET~~ (When Filled In)



ROUTINE

[REDACTED]

STATE/INR JCS/MC (DIA) CIA/MACC SWS NSA TREAS NSC/S SDO HIO CRS PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES

[REDACTED]

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DIST 20 FEBRUARY 1976

[REDACTED]

1.5 (c)

1. IN EARLY FEBRUARY, [REDACTED] PRESIDENT AUGUSTO PINOCHET [REDACTED] IS SERIOUS ABOUT COMING TO GRIPS WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AND ENSURING ENFORCEMENT OF RECENT LEGISLATION REGARDING PROPER TREATMENT OF DETAINEES. IN THIS REGARD, PINOCHET IS ANXIOUS TO GET THE FIRST SECTION OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION OUT BEFORE THE PUBLIC DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1976, BECAUSE THIS SECTION

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APPLIES TO INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND GUARANTEES AND SHOULD IMPROVE THE GOVERNMENT'S IMAGE IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD.

2. [REDACTED] THAT MUCH OF THE IMPETUS FOR PINOCHET'S CHANGE IN ATTITUDE HAS COME FROM DISCUSSIONS HE HAS HELD WITH MUGUEL SANCHEZ EITZER, MINISTER OF JUSTICE; JOSE MARIA EYZAGUIRRE, PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT; AND JAIME GUEZMAN, ADVISOR ON POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS. GUEZMAN HAD ADMITTED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THAT HE IS A LATE-COMER WITH REGARD TO RECOGNIZING THE EXISTENCE AND SERIOUSNESS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, BUT THAT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CONVINCED HIM TO INVESTIGATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SECURITY FORCES AND PARTICULARLY THOSE OF THE DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE (DINA).

3. IN EARLY JANUARY, THE PAPAL NUNCIATE INFORMED PINOCHET THAT DINA AGENT AHADCOMET OF THE NUNCIATURE AND DEMANDED THE RELEASE TO THEM OF NELSON GUTIERREZ, AN EXTREMIST LEADER WHO HAD TAKEN ASYLUM THERE. THE NUNCIATE REFUSED AND WARNED THAT IF THEY TOOK GUTIERREZ BY FORCE, HE WOULD SEE THAT THE INCIDENT WAS GIVEN

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INTERNATIONAL PUBLICITY. THE NUNCIO SAID THAT THIS DECLARATION 1.5 (c)  
CAUSED THE DINA AGENTS TO RECONSIDER AND WITHDRAW FROM THE  
EMBASSY GROUNDS. PINOCHET LISTENED INTENTLY TO THE NUNCIO'S  
ACCOUNT, EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN OVER THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE,  
AND SAID THAT HE WAS TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION.

4. THE NUNCIO SUBSEQUENTLY SHOWED GUZMAN A LETTER WHICH  
HE HAD WRITTEN TO THE VATICAN, EXPRESSING FEAR FOR HIS OWN  
LIFE AND ASKING THAT HE BE RECALLED. ACCORDING TO THE  
PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR, GUZMAN, WHO IS AN ALMOST FANATICAL  
PATRIOT, NOW BELIEVES IT IS HIS DUTY TO BOTH INSURE THE  
SAFETY OF THE PAPAL NUNCIO IN CHILE AND TO CORRECT THE ABUSES  
OF WHICH THE NUNCIO HAS SPOKEN. GUZMAN HAD HELD SEVERAL  
CONVERSATIONS WITH SCHWEITZER AND EYZAGUIRRE TO DISCUSS WAYS  
OF MONITORING AND IMPROVING THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. THE  
ADVISOR SAID THAT THE 29 JANUARY DECREE LA W GUARENTEEING THE  
RIGHTS OF DETAINEES WAS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE EFFORTS OF  
SCHWEITZER AND EYZAGUIRRE. HE EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE  
LAW WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BECAUSE FOR THE FIRST TIME, PINOCHET  
REALIZES THE EXTENT TO WHICH HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES ARE  
UNDERMINING HIS GOVERNMENT AND BECAUSE THE RESIGNATIONS OF

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(classification)

SCHWEITZER AND YEZAGUIRRE, FOR LACK OF ACTION, WOULD SERIOUSLY AFFECT CIVILIAN SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

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5.

[REDACTED]

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