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State Department review completed

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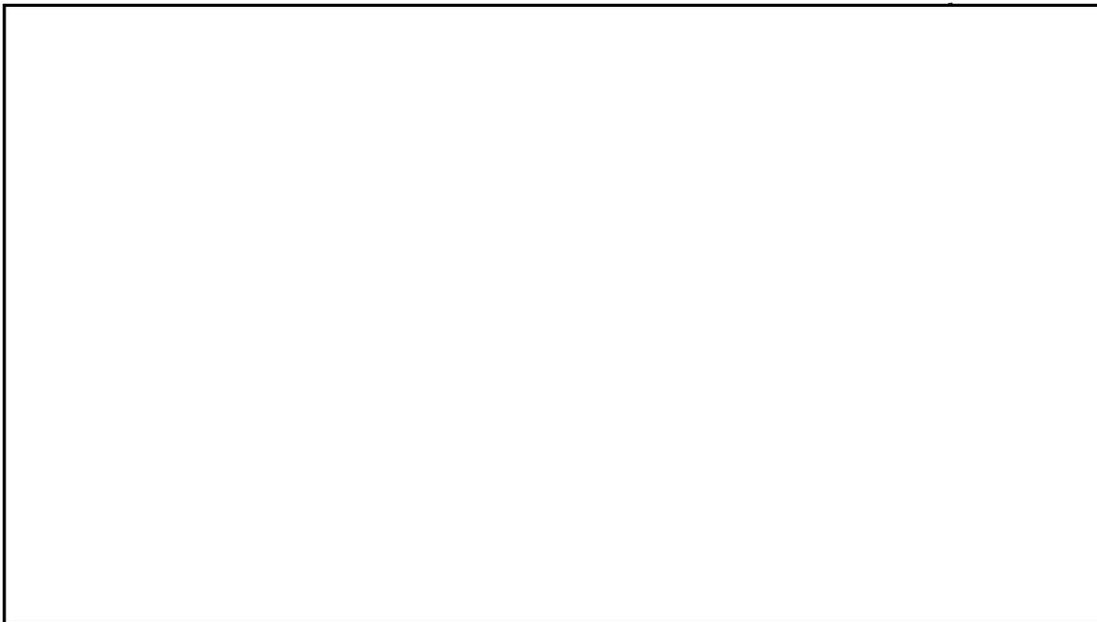
CONTENTS



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Chile: The armed forces reportedly will not permit a government "significantly influenced by Communists" to come to power.  (Page 2)

25X1



25X1

25X1

25X1

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CHILE: MINISTER OF DEFENSE MARAMBIO HAS TOLD THE US AMBASSADOR THAT THE ARMED FORCES WILL NOT PERMIT A GOVERNMENT 'SIGNIFICANTLY INFLUENCED BY COMMUNISTS' TO COME TO POWER AS A RESULT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN SEPTEMBER 1970.

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] MARAMBIO SPECIFICALLY RULED OUT A COMMUNIST-SUPPORTED GOVERNMENT HEADED BY A LEFTIST RADICAL OR A SOCIALIST. HE SAID THE MILITARY HAD NO CLEAR PLANS EITHER FOR TAKING OVER THE GOVERNMENT OR FOR RUNNING IT, BUT WOULD FIND SOMEONE TO PUT INTO POWER AND A TEAM OF EXPERTS TO SUPPORT HIM.

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[REDACTED] PRESIDENT FREI HIMSELF BELIEVES THAT IF BY NEXT FEBRUARY OR MARCH A POPULAR FRONT CANDIDATE IS CLEARLY LEADING, THE ARMED FORCES WILL INTERVENE AT THAT TIME RATHER THAN FLOUT THE POPULAR WILL AFTER THE ELECTION.

MARAMBIO ALSO CLAIMED TO HAVE RECEIVED CLEAR INDICATIONS FROM THE ARGENTINE MILITARY THAT ONLY PRE-EMPTIVE ACTION BY THE CHILEAN ARMED FORCES WOULD FORESTALL ARGENTINE INTERVENTION TO PREVENT A MARXIST GOVERNMENT IN CHILE.

ALTHOUGH THE CHILEAN MILITARY IS PROUD OF ITS REPUTATION FOR BEING APOLITICAL, YOUNGER OFFICERS ARE COMING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF EVENTS IN ARGENTINA AND PERU. IN ADDITION, LOW WAGES AND POOR EQUIPMENT HAVE INCREASED THE FEELING THAT THE CIVILIAN POLITICIANS ARE INDIFFERENT TO THE NEEDS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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