

BOLIVIAN JUNTA MOVES TO WIN PUBLIC SUPPORT

Members of the Bolivian junta were busy this week bringing order to their chaotic ministries, and junta president General Rene Barrientos traveled outside La Paz in search of popular support.

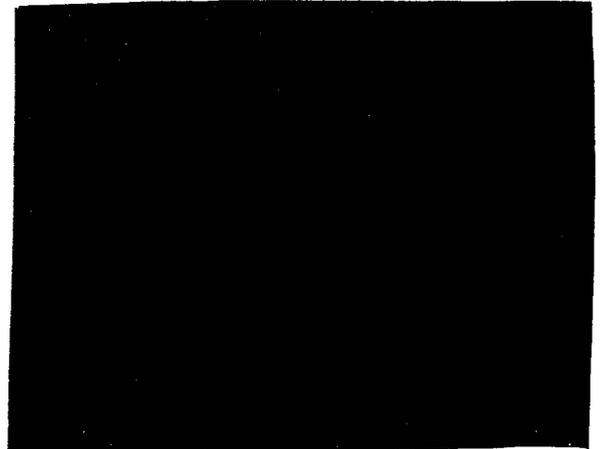
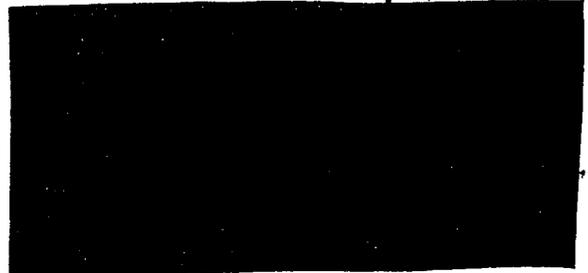
As part of this effort to win public favor, the junta has abolished the "oppressive" measures and organizations of the Paz regime. The state of siege and press censorship have been lifted, and the secret police organization has been abolished.



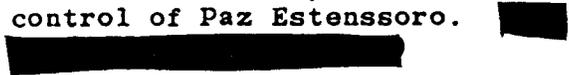
In his public speeches, Barrientos has stressed that political parties have an "unusual climate of freedom" in which to operate, but warned that any group which attempts to provoke disorder will be dealt with severely.

Political leaders, themselves hard at work to strengthen and expand their organizations, have talked much of party alliances and national fronts. Representatives of the relatively strong center-right Bolivian Socialist Falange (FSB) and of the small Social Democratic (PSD) and Bolivian Democratic Action (ADB) parties have begun discus-

sions aimed at formation of a Christian Democratic Party in which they hope to include the Social Christian Party (PSC).



Lechin and the Communists appear to have the jump on other parties as they all vie for control of peasant and labor organizations in and around La Paz that were formerly under the control of Paz Estenssoro.



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