



National
Foreign
Assessment
Center

~~Secret~~
DSB
1EG1
NOFORN-NOCONTRACT



Area Briefs



October 2, 1978



~~Secret~~

AGE 0 COV 0 ACP 0 TOB 0 TPE 0 MRO 0 DCI 0

PAGE 3 OF PAGE 3

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATION

DATE TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF: INFO: FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 IP FILES #

TO: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF AP LAB 78-152 FOR 2 OCT 784

■ CHILE: THIS STUDY IS BASED ON THE FEW PROVISIONS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE OF THE NEW CHILEAN CONSTITUTION. THE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPENDING CONSTITUTIONAL PLEBISCITE--A MAJOR STEP CONTEMPLATED BY THE PINOCHET REGIME IN ITS TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT--IS OBVIOUSLY TENTATIVE. WHEN ALL OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION'S PROVISIONS ARE RELEASED, A MORE COMPLETE AND PRECISE CONSIDERATION WILL BE POSSIBLE. ■

IN HIS SPEECH MARKING THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OVERTHROW OF THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT ON 11 SEPTEMBER, PRESIDENT PINOCHET OUTLINED THE LATEST AND, AS YET, MOST DEFINITE PLANS FOR THE TRANSITION FROM MILITARY TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING TO PINOCHET, A NEW CONSTITUTION, PREPARED UNDER HIS GUIDANCE, WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO VOTERS NEXT YEAR, BUT ELECTIONS WOULD NOT BE HELD UNTIL 1985. INITIAL REACTION TO THE SPEECH HAS FOCUSED ON THE LONG INTERVAL BEFORE CIVILIAN RULE. PROBABLY OF GREATER SIGNIFICANCE, HOWEVER, IS THE DEVELOPING CONTROVERSY OVER

150

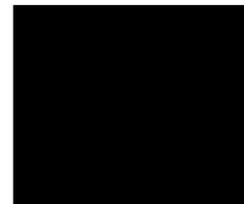
DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CLASSIFICATION

FORM 1041 USE PREVIOUS



OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

PAGE 4

CLASSIFICATION
~~SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR DATE TIME GROUP CITE

CONF: INFO: FILE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER
 INDEX DISSEM BY.
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 IF FILES #

THE PINOCHET CONSTITUTION, WHICH DIFFERS MARKEDLY FROM CHILE'S 1925 CONSTITUTION. PINOCHET INTENDS TO SUBMIT THE NEW CONSTITUTION FOR APPROVAL IN A NATIONAL PLEBISCITE, SOME POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF WHICH COULD PRODUCE SERIOUS, EVEN CRITICAL PROBLEMS FOR THE REGIME. WHETHER CHILEANS ACCEPT OR REJECT THE NEW CHARTER, THE PINOCHET CONSTITUTION AND THE OPPOSITION TO IT DISCLOSE ONCE AGAIN THE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE REGIME'S PERCEPTION OF THE PROFOUND CLEAVAGE IN CHILEAN POLITICS. ■
THE APPROACH TO A NEW CONSTITUTION ■

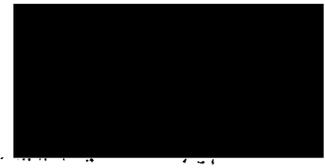
150

IN HIS LENGTHY SPEECH, OFTEN POLEMICAL IN TONE, PINOCHET DEALT WITH MORE THAN THE TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN RULE. AS HE HAS IN THE PAST, HE DEFENDED THE LEGITIMACY OF THE COUP AND THE MORAL MANDATE OF HIS MILITARY REGIME, REVIEWED ITS PROGRESS, HIGHLY PRAISED ITS ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, AND COVERED A WIDE RANGE OF DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. HE MET HEAD-ON MANY OF THE PAST AND PRESENT CRITICISMS OF HIS ADMINISTRATION AND ITS POLICIES

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER
CLASSIFICATION

COORDINATING OFFICERS



~~SECRET~~ NOFORN NO CONTROL

5

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER

 # FILES #

LON INFO: FILE

AND BOLDLY RAISED SOME THORNY MATTERS, MOST NOTABLY THE
METELIER CASE. ALL IN ALL, IT WAS A LONG AND STRONGLY
WORDED DEFENSE OF HIS EMBATTLED REGIME IN ITS CONTINUING
STRUGGLE AGAINST THE FORCES AND IDEOLOGIES ALLEGEDLY
MANIFESTED IN THE OVERTHROWN ALLENDE ADMINISTRATION. IN
THAT STRUGGLE, PINOCHET CLAIMS TO ENJOY MAJORITY SUPPORT
AGAINST HIS OPPONENTS. HIS CLAIM WILL BE PUT TO AN IM-
PORTANT TEST WHEN CHILEAN VOTERS ARE GIVEN THE CHANCE TO
ACCEPT OR REJECT THE REGIME'S CONSTITUTION--A CONTROVER-
SIAL DOCUMENT, ONE OF WHOSE MAJOR PURPOSES IS TO PREVENT
LEGALLY ANOTHER ALLENDE-TYPE GOVERNMENT.4

150

ACCORDING TO PINOCHET, THE VOTE ON THE NEW CONSTITU-
TION WILL BEGIN A THREE-STAGE PROCESS LEADING TO CIVILIAN
RULE: ■

-- IN STAGE ONE, THE CHILEAN PEOPLE NEXT YEAR WILL
BE ASKED TO APPROVE THE NEW CONSTITUTION,
DRAFTED BY EXPERTS CHOSEN BY THE JUNTA AND PRE-
PARED UNDER PINOCHET'S GUIDANCE. ■

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

READING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CLASSIFICATION



OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

PAGES 6

CLASSIFICATION
~~SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR DATE TIME GROUP CITE MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF: INFO: FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 IF FILES #

-- IN STAGE TWO, LASTING SIX YEARS, CHILE WILL BE RULED BY A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT IN WHICH POLITICAL POWER WILL BE SHARED WITH LEGISLATORS APPOINTED BY THE JUNTA. [REDACTED]

150

-- IN STAGE THREE, REACHED IN 1985, A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT WILL BE ELECTED UNDER THE RULES OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION. [REDACTED]

ABOUT THE RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE, THE REGIME PERCEIVES TWO IMPERATIVES: IT MUST RE-ESTABLISH A CIVILIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM, AND SECONDLY, THAT SYSTEM MUST BE INVULNERABLE TO THE POLITICAL ASSAULTS OF THE FORCES AND IDEOLOGIES THAT CAUSED THE "TRAUMA" OF 1973. [REDACTED]

THE STRONG EMOTION BEHIND THE VIEW THAT A "SAFE" CONSTITUTION IS A CRITICAL NECESSITY WAS DISPLAYED IN PINOCHET'S ANNIVERSARY SPEECH BY HIS CHARACTERIZATION OF THE ALLENDE REGIME AND HIS DESCRIPTION OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING ITS REMOVAL: "A TOTALITARIAN MARXIST-LENINIST OPPRESSION AIMED AT IMPLEMENTING A COMMUNIST

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CLASSIFICATION



FORM 104 USE PREVIOUS

M 1 0 0 0

PAGE 7 OF 7 PAGES

~~SECRET NO FORN NO CONTRACT~~

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

DATE TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF INFO FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 HP FILES #

TYRANNY. . . THOSE WHO TRIED TO ANNIHILATE FOREVER THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF CHILEAN NATIONALITY." THIS HARSH RHETORIC, WHICH INCLUDED THE PHRASE "CIVIL WAR," IS MEANT TO REMIND REGIME SUPPORTERS OF THE IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THOSE WHO STILL SUPPORT THE DEPOSED ADMINISTRATION AND THOSE WHO APPROVE ITS OVERTHROW. IN THIS "WE" AND "THEY" DIVISION, "THEY" CANNOT BE SIMPLY REGARDED AS AN OPPOSITION PARTY IN A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM-- "THEY" ARE THE ENEMY, AND A CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM MUST BE CONSTRUCTED THAT WILL PREVENT THEM FROM COMING TO POWER.4

150

AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE MILITARY REGIME HAS GIVEN CONSIDERABLE TIME AND THOUGHT TO THE WRITING OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION. FOR NEARLY FIVE YEARS, A CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM COMMISSION--APPOINTED BY THE JUNTA AND GUIDED BY PINOCHET-- HAS LABORED ON A DRAFT. MANY CHILEANS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION, WOULD AGREE THAT THE CONSTITUTION OF 1925 HAD SERIOUS WEAKNESSES AND NEEDED REVISION, PARTICULARLY TO PREVENT THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT BY A MINORITY

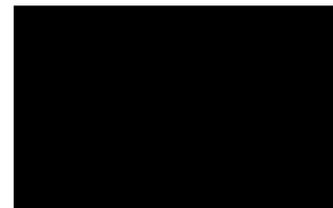
DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EAT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CLASSIFICATION

FORM 437 USE PREVIOUS



OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

8

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF:

INFO: FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 IN FILES #

AND TO MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR A CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO IMPOSE UNCONSTITUTIONAL ACTS. ALTHOUGH THERE IS LITTLE OPPOSITION TO THE WRITING OF A NEW CONSTITUTION, THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE QUESTIONING OF ITS SPECIFIC TERMS. THIS CONTROVERSY SHARPENED WHEN THE REFORM COMMISSION FINALLY PRESENTED ITS 306-PAGE DRAFT TO THE MILITARY JUNTA AND DETAILS BEGAN TO LEAK OUT. IT IS THIS BASIC DOCUMENT-- WITH SOME REVISIONS-- THAT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO CHILEAN VOTERS NEXT YEAR. AS YET, THE REGIME HAS REFUSED TO RELEASE THE COMPLETE TEXT, BUT SOME COPIES HAVE EVIDENTLY MOVED OUTSIDE THE INNER CIRCLES, AND SKETCHY NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS HAVE APPEARED.

THE CONTENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

ALTHOUGH ONLY GENERAL CONCLUSIONS ARE NOW POSSIBLE, THE PINOCHET CONSTITUTION SEEMS TO BE A MIXED DOCUMENT, PREPARED WITH AN EYE TO ITS ACCEPTABILITY BY THE CHILEAN PEOPLE. IT CONTAINS A GREAT DEAL OF THE CONSTITUTION OF 1925, AND IT MAKES SOME UNOBJECTIONABLE REVISIONS OF

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CLASSIFICATION

FORM USE PREVIOUS



OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 9

SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT

MESSAGE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

DATE TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF:

INFO: FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 IN FILE #

FORMER WEAKNESSES. BUT IT ALSO GOES BEYOND THIS TO NEW CONCEPTS THAT ARE NOT LIKELY TO MEET UNIVERSAL APPROVAL IN CHILE. IT DOES NOT ELIMINATE POLITICAL PARTIES IN FAVOR OF CORPORATIST REPRESENTATION, AND IT DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR THE INDIRECT ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT--TWO RIGHTWING POSSIBILITIES THAT HAVE BEEN REJECTED. IN THE DEFINITIONAL JUNGLE WHERE THESE TERMS SERVE POLEMICAL PURPOSES, IT WILL CERTAINLY BE LABELED "DEMOCRATIC" AND "ANTI-DEMOCRATIC," BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE CHILE. [REDACTED]

150

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, THE NEW CONSTITUTION PROVIDES FOR A GOVERNMENT OF LIMITED POWERS SEPARATED BETWEEN PRESIDENT, CONGRESS, AND A CONSTITUTIONAL TRIBUNAL. A FOURTH, SPECIALIZED POWER ALSO EXISTS--A NEW INSTITUTION CALLED THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL SECURITY, COMPOSED OF THE PRESIDENT, SELECTED MILITARY LEADERS, AND THE PRESIDENTS OF THE SENATE, THE SUPREME COURT, AND THE CENTRAL BANK. [REDACTED]

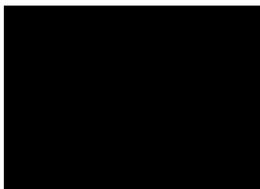
IN A SYSTEM OF UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE, THE PRESIDENT--WHOSE POSITION IS GREATLY STRENGTHENED VIS-A-VIS THE

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CLASSIFICATION



FORM 12E
11-73

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

OMF

PAGE 11 OF 11

CLASSIFICATION
SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR DATE TIME GROUP CITE MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF: INFO: FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 IF FILES #

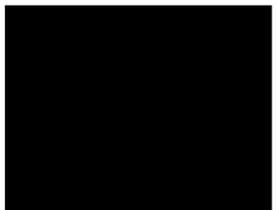
SENATE. THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL SECURITY, A KIND OF WATCHDOG BODY, SEEMS TO HAVE THE POWER TO INVESTIGATE ANY INDIVIDUAL, GROUP, OR AUTHORITY WHOSE ACTIONS IT BELIEVES CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF THE NATION. ■■■■■

OPPOSITION MAY DEVELOP TO SOME OF THESE PROVISIONS, BUT IT CERTAINLY WILL NOT BE FUNDAMENTAL IN NATURE. SURE TO PROVOKE STRONG CONTROVERSY. HOWEVER, IS THE NEW CATCHALL PROVISION THAT COULD BE WIDELY USED TO LIMIT SPEECH AND ACTION. EXPLICITLY NOTING THAT IT DIFFERS HERE FROM THE MORE PERMISSIVE CONSTITUTION OF 1925, THE REGIME'S NEW DOCUMENT FORBIDS "ANY ACT BY PERSONS OR GROUPS INTENDED TO PROPAGATE DOCTRINES AIMED AGAINST THE FAMILY, ADVOCATE VIOLENCE OR A TOTALITARIAN CONCEPTION OF SOCIETY OR OF THE STATE . . . OR IS FOUNDED IN CLASS WAR, OR IS AGAINST THE DIGNITY OR THE RIGHTS THAT EMANATE FROM HUMAN NATURE." SPECIFIC PROHIBITIONS OF BEHAVIOR UNDER THIS PROVISION WOULD FOLLOW DECISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER
CLASSIFICATION

COORDINATING OFFICERS



FORM 12E
11-73

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF:

INFO: FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
NO INDEX
RETURN TO PE:
FILES

TRIBUNAL. THIS EXTRAORDINARILY BROAD LANGUAGE SEEMS SURE TO ENLARGE THE FOCUS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL DEBATE. THOSE WHO WROTE THIS PROVISION CERTAINLY INTENDED IT TO PROSCRIBE THE CHILEAN COMMUNIST AND SOCIALIST PARTIES, BUT OPPONENTS CAN REASONABLY ASK WHETHER THE PROVISION COULD NOT BE USED TO BAN OTHER PARTIES AS WELL. ONE ARGUMENT TO BE MADE IS THAT SUCH A PROVISION IS SIMPLY NOT WORKABLE.

150

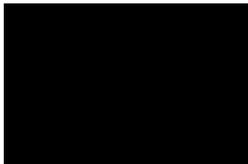
FURTHER HOSTILITY TO THE NEW CONSTITUTION WILL PREDICTABLY BE ENGENDERED BY THE RIGHTS IT GRANTS TO PRIVATE PROPERTY AND TO THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM AS WELL AS THE LIMITATIONS IT IMPOSES ON THE RIGHTS OF UNIONS. THE PINOCHET REGIME IS QUITE EXPLICIT IN ITS DISDAIN FOR THE ALLEGED STATIST ECONOMIC FAILURES OF THE TWO PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS AND IN ITS CONVICTION THAT ONLY A MARKET ECONOMY CAN GUARANTEE A PROSPEROUS CHILE. IT OBVIOUSLY INTENDS TO PROVIDE A CONSTITUTIONAL ADVANTAGE TO ITS PREFERRED ECONOMIC SYSTEM. IN CHILE, WHERE LEFTIST

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CLASSIFICATION



FORM 12E 11-73

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

PAGE 13

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

BY THE GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF:

INFO: FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 # FILES #

PARTIES POLLED ALMOST 44 PERCENT OF THE VOTE IN THE 1973 CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION, THERE ARE MANY PARTISANS OF STRONGLY OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS. [REDACTED]

150

ALTHOUGH THE RIGHT TO FORM UNIONS IS CLEARLY GRANTED, THEY MAY NOT INTERVENE IN POLITICS, AND THE RIGHT TO STRIKE IS PROHIBITED IN PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AND IN CERTAIN VITAL INDUSTRIES. IN THE REST OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, LABOR UNIONS MUST FIRST GO TO COMPULSORY BARGAINING AND ARBITRATION, AND THE RIGHT TO STRIKE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE UNAMBIGUOUSLY GRANTED. THIS STILL SEEMS TO BE A MATTER TO BE DECIDED BY A SUPPLEMENTARY LABOR LAW OR BY CONSTITUTIONAL INTERPRETATION. THROUGH A NUMBER OF PROVISIONS, THE CONSTITUTION TRIES TO PREVENT THE INFLUENCE OF POLITICAL PARTIES OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, ESPECIALLY UNIONS AND PROFESSIONAL GROUPS. [REDACTED]

CONSTITUTIONAL CONTROVERSY [REDACTED]

THIS BRIEF SELECTION OF A FEW ELEMENTS OF THE AVAILABLE TEXT CANNOT ADEQUATELY SUMMARIZE OR INTERPRET A COM-

DATE:
 ORIG:
 UNIT:
 EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CLASSIFICATION



OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

14

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF:

INFO: FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 # FILES #

PLEX DOCUMENT. WHAT IS POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT IS THAT PARTS OF IT HAVE AROUSED CONSIDERABLE NEGATIVE OPINION. COMPLAINTS ARE BEING VOICED NOT ONLY ABOUT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE REGIME'S CONSTITUTION BUT ABOUT THE PLEBISCITARY PROCESS TO RATIFY IT. A GROUP OF OPPOSITION EXPERTS, MANY OF THEM CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, HAS EVEN BEGUN TO PREPARE AN ALTERNATIVE CONSTITUTION. ■

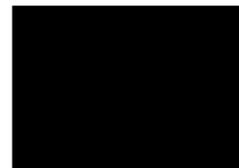
150

TAKING NOTE OF THE CRITICISM, PINOCHET HAS MADE EXPLICIT THE REGIME'S DETERMINATION TO STICK TO ITS STATED COURSE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESENT DRAFT WILL BE EXAMINED BY A CONSULTATIVE BODY, THE COUNCIL OF STATE; FOLLOWING THAT, THE JUNTA WILL MAKE A FINAL ANALYSIS, AND WITH THE TECHNICAL HELP OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM COMMISSION, IT WILL APPROVE THE FINAL PRODUCT. RESPONDING TO THOSE "WHO ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE COURSE OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION," PINOCHET SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD "WELCOME EVERY IDEA OR SUGGESTION AIMED AT IMPROVING IT." NEVERTHELESS, EVEN IF THE REGIME IS DISPOSED TO BE FAIR

DATE:
 ORIG:
 UNIT:
 EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER
 CLASSIFICATION

COORDINATING OFFICERS



OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

PAGE 15

CLASSIFICATION
~~SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR DATE TIME GROUP CITE MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CONF: INFO: FILE

INDEX DISSEM BY:
 NO INDEX
 RETURN TO PER
 IF FILE #

AND OPEN TO OUTSIDE SUGGESTIONS, IT IS EXTREMELY IMPROB-
ABLE THAT IT WILL MATERIALLY CHANGE THE BASIC CONCEPTS
OF ITS CONSTITUTION

150

THE REGIME WILL HAVE A GREAT DEAL RIDING ON THE
COMING PLEBISCITE. WHEN SPEAKING OF THE TRANSITION
STAGES, PINOCHET SEEMED TO ASSUME THAT THE NEW CONSTITU-
TION WOULD BE RATIFIED. IF IT IS NOT, IT WOULD BE A
GREAT SOURCE OF EMBARRASSMENT FOR THE REGIME. DEFEAT
OF THE CAREFULLY CONSTRUCTED "SAFE" CONSTITUTION WOULD
IMPLY APPROVAL FOR A MORE LIBERAL ONE. IN PINOCHET'S
VIEW, THIS COULD ONLY LEAD TO THE ACQUISITION OF POWER
BY THE TYPE OF ENEMY THE MILITARY WAS FORCED TO OVERTHROW
IN 1973. VOTER REJECTION OF THE REGIME'S CONSTITUTION
COULD THUS CREATE A CRISIS FOR THE PINOCHET GOVERNMENT
MORE SEVERE THAN ANYTHING IT HAS YET HAD TO FACE

AS YET, THERE ARE NO SIGNS THE REGIME SEES ANY
GREAT RISK IN PERMITTING THE PLEBISCITE. IT APPARENTLY
BELIEVES IT ENJOYS HIGH CIVILIAN SUPPORT, A PERCEPTION

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER
CLASSIFICATION

COORDINATING OFFICERS



001 11 11 11 11 11 11 11

16

~~SECRET NOFORN NOCONTRACT~~

0
0
0
0

PERHAPS COLORED BY THE SUCCESS OF ITS PLEBISCITE VICTORY
LAST JANUARY. THEN, 75 PERCENT VOTED AGAINST THE UN
RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN
CHILE. THOUGH THE CHOICE WAS FORCED UPON THE VOTERS,
THE ELECTION SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN TOTALLY HONEST. IT WAS
ALSO A GREAT AND UNEXPECTED VICTORY FOR PINOCHET, WHO
SPOKE OF THE VOTE AS "LEGITIMIZING" HIS REGIME. PINO-
CHET'S POSITION IN THE FORTHCOMING CONSTITUTIONAL PLEBI-
SCITE WILL NOT BE ASSISTED BY THE NATIONALISTIC BIAS OF
THE EARLIER VOTE, HOWEVER, AND A NEGATIVE OUTCOME IS
POSSIBLE. ■

150

EVEN IF THE REGIME WINS THE PLEBISCITE, BUT ONLY BY
A SMALL MARGIN, PROBLEMS WILL REMAIN. GIVEN ONLY SLIGHT
APPROVAL, WHAT KIND OF LEGITIMACY WILL THE CHILEAN PEOPLE
ACCORD TO THE NEW CONSTITUTION AND ITS POLITICAL SYSTEM? ■

A BIG REGIME VICTORY--SAY WELL OVER 60 PERCENT--WOULD
LEAVE PINOCHET WITH THE FEWEST PROBLEMS, ALTHOUGH THE
COUNTRY'S BASIC IDEOLOGICAL SPLIT WOULD STILL REMAIN ■

DATE
ORIG
UNIT
EXT

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS



FORM 12E
11-73

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

