



DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS

ROUTINE

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NSC/S NIO

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DIST 25 APRIL 1974

1.5 (c)

1. [REDACTED] APPROXIMATELY 200 FORMER MEMBERS OF THE POPULAR UNITY (U.P.) COALITION WILL BE TRIED BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND THE DEATH PENALTY WILL BE REQUESTED IN ABOUT 30 CASES. SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE AWARE THAT IF THE DEATH PENALTY IS RENDERED IN ANY OF THESE CASES, THE ACTUAL EXECUTION OF EVEN ONE PERSON WILL HAVE A STRONG NEGATIVE IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION.

2. ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT IS SENSITIVE TO INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION, IT WILL ABIDE BY MILITARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL

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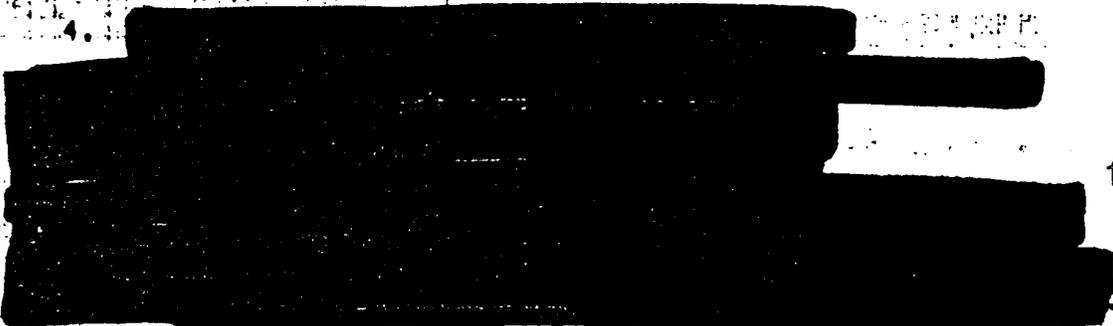
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(classification)

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LAW AND CARRY OUT THE PENALTIES AS DICTATED BY THE COURTS. NO EFFORT IS BEING MADE BY JUNTA PRESIDENT AUGUSTO PINOCHET OR OTHER MEMBERS OF THE JUNTA TO INTERFERE IN THE LEGAL PROCESS OF THE TRIALS OR TO LESSEN THE PENALTIES BEING REQUESTED BY MILITARY PROSECUTORS.  COMMENT: PINOCHET WILL FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO GRANT CLEMENCY DUE TO THE INTER-SERVICE NATURE OF THE TRIALS AND BECAUSE OF THE PRESSURE FROM THE LOWER RANKS OF THE MILITARY TO DEAL HARSHLY WITH THE U.P. DEFENDANTS.)

3. TO BALANCE OUT THE NEGATIVE REACTION TO ANY POSSIBLE EXECUTIONS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO PLAY UP THE HUMANITARIAN TREATMENT WHICH WILL BE GIVEN TO THE SENIOR U.P. OFFICIALS. THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT EXECUTE ANY OF THESE LEADERS SINCE IT PLANS TO CONTINUE USING THEM AS HOSTAGES IN DETERRING TERRORIST ACTS AGAINST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.



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