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DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS

[REDACTED]

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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

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1.5 (c)

1. PRESIDENT AUGUSTO PINOCHET HAS DECIDED TO ENACT NEW LEGISLATION PROVIDING HUMAN RIGHTS SAFEGUARDS AND SETTING GREATER LIMITATIONS ON THE POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT. PINOCHET PLANS TO ISSUE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL ACTS ALONG THESE LINES WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. IN ADDITION, THESE LEGAL GUARANTEES WILL BE INCORPORATED IN CHILE'S NEW CONSTITUTION, WHICH HE HOPES TO HAVE READY BY THE END OF 1978.

2. PRESIDENT PINOCHET BELIEVES THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST TAKE THESE ACTIONS IN ORDER TO END CHILE'S ISOLATED INTERNATIONAL POSITION. HE BELIEVES THAT CHILE HAS EFFECTIVELY CORRECTED MOST OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS FOR WHICH THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN

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CRITICIZED BY RELEASING ITS POLITICAL PRISONERS, RESTRUCTURING THE NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE (DINA), AND TERMINATING THE PRACTICE OF KIDNAPPING, TORTURING AND KILLING POLITICAL OPPONENTS. PINOCHET FEELS THAT POSITIVE ACTION TO IMPROVE THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE WILL REMOVE THE LAST REMAINING MAJOR CRITICISM OF THE COUNTRY'S HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. THIS WILL IN TURN IMPROVE CHILE'S INTERNATIONAL STANDING AND LEAVE CHILE IN A STRONGER POSITION TO DEAL WITH ITS PROBLEMS WITH ARGENTINA, PERU AND BOLIVIA.

3.

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1.5 (c)

4. PINOCHET RECENTLY ORDERED THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE JUNTA (COAJ) TO CARRY OUT A STUDY OF WHAT MEASURES WOULD BE NECESSARY TO IMPROVE CHILE'S INTERNATIONAL STANDING. THE COAJ STUDY SUPPORTED THE VIEW THAT CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES OF HUMAN RIGHTS ARE NEEDED IN ORDER TO COUNTER INTERNATIONAL CRITICISMS

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LEVELED AGAINST THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT.

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5. PINOCHET IS ALSO PLANNING TO MAKE CABINET CHANGES WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE WHICH WILL COMPLEMENT HIS COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE CHILE'S HUMAN RIGHTS POSTURE. PINOCHET INTENDS TO BRING SOME INDIVIDUALS INTO THE CABINET WHO WILL ADD INTERNATIONAL STATURE TO THE GOVERNMENT, SUCH AS ENRIQUE O R T U Z A R, LAWYER AND MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

6. [REDACTED] PINOCHET HAS AVOIDED UP UNTIL NOW THE PROMULGATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL ACTS EFFECTING THE POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH BECAUSE HE DID NOT WANT TO TIE HIS HANDS IN GOVERNING THE COUNTRY. HE APPARENTLY NOW BELIEVES THAT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO ACCEPT RESTRICTIONS ON HIS POWERS IN ORDER TO IMPROVE CHILE'S INTERNATIONAL POSITON.)

7. (EMBASSY COMMENT: IF ACCURATE, THIS REPORT MAY INDICATE A SPEEDING UP OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM TIMETABLE. IN NOVEMBER PINOCHET SENT A LETTER TO CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTUZAR SAYING HE HAD UNTIL THE END OF 1979 TO COMPLETE WORK ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL ACTS, WHICH WOULD SERVE IF LIEU OF A NEW CONSTITUTION THAT WAS TO BE APPROVED IN 1986 OR 1987 [REDACTED] IT IS NOT CLEAR FROM THE REPORT WHETHER PINOCHET PLANS TO MOVE SOON ON THE POLITICAL PARTY IDEA, ONLY AFTER THE CONSTITUTIONAL ACTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED (1979 OR 1989), OR NOT UNTIL THE NEW CONSTITUTION IS IN FORCE.)

8. [REDACTED]

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1.5 (c)

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