

~~SECRET~~



[REDACTED]

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

[REDACTED] 20 MAR 78

1.5(c)

[REDACTED]

1.

2.

[REDACTED] CONSIDERED THE CURRENT INVESTIGATION INTO THE POSSIBLE COMPLICITY OF CHILEAN OFFICIALS IN THE ASSASSINATION OF ORLANDO LETELIER AS A HIGHLY SERIOUS MATTER. [REDACTED] TOLD BY PRESIDENT AUGUSTO PINOCHET THAT PINOCHET DID NOT KNOW THE FACTS BEHIND THE TRAVEL OF TWO INDIVIDUALS TO THE UNITED STATES IN AUGUST 1976 ON OFFICIAL CHILEAN PASSPORTS IN THE ALIASES OF JUAN WILLIAMS ROSE AND ALEJANDRO ROMERAL JARA [REDACTED] [REDACTED] INTENDED

~~SECRET~~

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE

DATE: JUN 11 1999

[REDACTED] JUN 11 1999

(285)

[REDACTED]

TO AVOID PUBLIC CONTACT WITH PINOCHET TO THE DEGREE POSSIBLE UNTIL [REDACTED] FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW MUCH PINOCHET WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THIS INVESTIGATION.

3. [REDACTED]

1.5(c)

4. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN ADDITION, SOME CARABINERO COLONELS EXPRESSED THE BELIEF [REDACTED] THAT GENERAL MANUEL CONTRERAS AND THE NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE (DINA) WERE PROBABLY INVOLVED IN THE LETELIER ASSASSINATION, AND THAT IF PINOCHET IS PROVEN TO HAVE HAD KNOWLEDGE OF THIS PLOT, HE SHOULD BE REPLACED AS PRESIDENT.

5. [REDACTED]

1.5(c)

6. [REDACTED] ARMY OFFICERS ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED OVER THE EFFECTS OF THE CURRENT INVESTIGATION ON THE IMAGE OF THE CHILEAN ARMED FORCES. SOME [REDACTED] ARMY OFFICERS ARE CONDUCTING AN

INFORMAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE MATTER TO ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE HOW IT AFFECTS THE ARMY AS AN INSTITUTION. THEY ARE TRYING TO IDENTIFY THE TWO INDIVIDUALS WHO TRAVELED TO THE U.S. IN AUGUST 1976 AND FIND OUT WHO SENT THEM AND THE NATURE OF THEIR MISSION.

7.

[REDACTED]

1.5 (c)

8. (EMBASSY COMMENT: IN A RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE GENERAL LEIGH SAID THAT HE KNEW NEXT TO NOTHING ABOUT THE LETELIER INVESTIGATION BUT WAS CONFIDENT THAT IT WOULD BE PURSUED UNTIL IT PRODUCED "CONCRETE RESULTS". DISCLAIMING KNOWLEDGE OF OPINION POLLS ALLEGEDLY SHOWING THE PRESIDENT MORE POPULAR THAN THE JUNTA, LEIGH SUGGESTED THAT WITH SUCH BACKING PINOCHET SHOULD ACCELERATE THE TRANSITION PLAN.)

ST:MC

9.

[REDACTED]

10.

[REDACTED]

1.5 (c)