



[REDACTED]

S-E-C-R-E-T

[REDACTED]

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
DATE DISTR. [REDACTED]
NO. PAGES 2 37 DEC 1971
REFERENCES [REDACTED]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. [REDACTED] 1971, several high-ranking military officers in the Chilean Armed Forces commented [REDACTED] that President Salvador Allende is very, very afraid of assassination. He always travels in a convoy of cars and no one ever knows which car he is in. He is often flown from place to place by helicopter.
2. When commenting about Allende's fear of assassination, [REDACTED] mentioned that when the Commanding General of the Chilean Army, General Rene Schneider, was assassinated following the election of Allende, the intention of those involved was not to kill him, but to kidnap him. It was hoped that if he were kidnapped, this would alarm the military services sufficiently to cause them to step in and take over the government. Unfortunately, when the kidnapping attempt was made Schneider came up shooting. Although he in fact shot himself in the side in doing so, this probably would not have killed him, but when he fired, his would-be abductors returned the fire and he was killed. It is not known whether Schneider thought the Revolutionary Left Movement (MIR) was after him or not. The fact was that a group of rightist active duty military people, ex-military people, and a lot of civilians -- mostly upper-class people -- were involved in the plot to kidnap Schneider and bring about the overthrow of Allende.
3. Allende has fairly accurately identified those involved in the plot and has arrested most of them, along with others who probably were not involved. About a dozen people are still being sought and for weeks their names and photos were posted all over Santiago as those sought by the Interpol Organization. Several of those sought are safely out of Chile, but others are still in hiding there.

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4. The fear of assassination is widespread among those of both the right and the left. This has been prompted by numerous killings during the last year and is a situation which has not heretofore existed in the country.

[REDACTED] stated that he now carries a weapon on the seat of his car at all times, even when driving with his wife. Although he is not afraid of assassination directed by Allende, he is afraid of an attack by radical leftists.

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