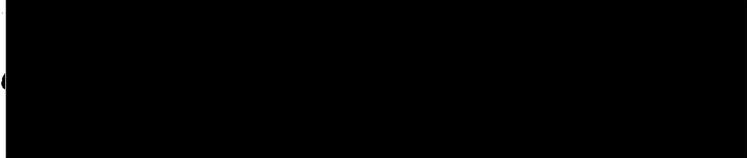




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MESSAGES ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE UNLESS A HIGHER PRECEDENCE IS INDICATED IN THE ADDRESSEE LINE

← ALIGN FIRST LETTER IN THIS BOX.

TYPE THE WORD "ALIGN" TO REGISTER HERE →

OUTGOING MESSAGE

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CLASSIFICATION
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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF [REDACTED] 76-070.Y

1. CHILE: THERE IS GROWING EVIDENCE THAT THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT IS TAKING STRONGER MEASURES TO PUNISH MEMBERS OF ITS SECURITY FORCES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MILITARY TRIBUNALS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING SECRET TRIALS RESULTING IN THE COURT-MARTIAL OF MILITARY AND POLICE PERSONNEL CHARGED WITH TORTURING--AND IN SOME CASES KILLING-- PRISONERS.

THE TOP ARMY COMMANDER FOR THE SANTIAGO REGION, GENERAL ROLANDO GARAY, WHO ALSO SERVES AS MILITARY JUDGE FOR THE CAPITAL, [REDACTED] HAS HEARD SOME CASES AND IS PREPARING TO PROCESS OTHERS. GARAY APPARENTLY HAS BEEN PRESSED BY A GROUP OF ARMY GENERALS TO EXPLORE WITH PRESIDENT PINOCHET THE POSSIBILITY OF PUBLICIZING SOME TRIALS TO DEMONSTRATE THE REGIME'S SINCERITY IN SAFEGUARDING HUMAN RIGHTS.

PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRIALS WOULD HELP CHILE'S POSITION ABROAD BY HIGHLIGHTING EFFORTS BY THE REGIME TO DEAL WITH THE

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3. MESSAGES ARE CONSIDERED ROUTINE UNLESS A HIGHER PRECEDENCE IS INDICATED IN THE ADDRESSEE LINE.

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OUTGOING MESSAGE

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EXCESSES OF THE SECURITY FORCES. ON THE OTHER ^{HAND} ~~AHDN~~, IT MIGHT OPEN A PANDORA'S BOX BY EXPOSING SPECIFIC INSTANCES OF GRAVE ABUSE OF ■■■■ POWER BY ARMED FORCES AND INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL SINCE THE COUP IN SEPTEMBER 1973. OFFICIALS MAY WELL BE JUSTIFIED IN THEIR FEARS THAT OUTSIDERS MIGHT DIG DEEPER INTO THE EVIDENCE AND UNCOVER A WEB OF OFFICIALLY CONDONED VIOLATIONS THAT COULD IMPLICATE SOME IN HIGH PLACES, AS WELL AS UNDERMINE THE MORALE OF SECURITY FORCES.

HOWEVER FAR THE CAMPAIGN TO END MALTREATMENT OF PRISONERS GOES, WORD OF THE TRIALS IS LIKELY IN ANY EVENT TO HAVE SOME REMEDIAL EFFECT AS IT FILTERS THROUGH THE RANKS OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE. [REDACTED]

15c

