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# Central Intelligence Bulletin

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CHILE: Junta President Pinochet's displeasure with a Catholic Church pronouncement on human rights could redound against the Christian Democratic Party.

The bishops' declaration, "Reconstruction in Chile," issued on April 24, climaxed a period of increasing tension between the church and the junta. Pinochet [REDACTED] is angry with Cardinal Raul Silva, 15c the head of the church in Chile, but still wants to avoid an open break between his regime and the church. The junta President [REDACTED] blames the Christian Democratic Party, particularly former president Frei, for the tone of the declaration. Ultraconservative civilian advisers of the junta who oppose the party may be pushing this line, and the party's radio station could be the first to feel the junta's wrath. The station, which recently was hit with a six-day suspension, has refused to heed warnings on "political" commentaries and has carried extensive excerpts from the declaration.

Relations between the junta and the Christian Democrats have been on a steady downhill slide, but a group of army generals who would like to curb conservative civilian influence on the junta [REDACTED] have met with Christian Democratic figures and have professed to be working behind the scenes to bring about a dramatic increase in the party's role in the government.

Plans of this nature would be set back severely if the party is blamed for the bishop's declaration. A sharp government move against the party would also drive it closer to outright opposition to the regime-- a situation that would deprive the junta of a potential source of much active popular support. [REDACTED]

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