

January 14, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

THROUGH : Acting Director, Center for Policy Support

SUBJECT : Chilean Propaganda Efforts Against Former President Frei

1. [redacted] propaganda efforts sponsored (b)(1)
 by "Operation Condor" possibly designed to cause the (b)(3)
 dissolution of the Christian Democratic Party in Chile
 and the political demise of former President Eduardo Frei.
 "Operation Condor" is an organization of intelligence and
 security officials from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Para-
 guay and Uruguay. From its headquarters in Buenos Aires
 the organization's mission is to keep track of subversive
 and leftists hostile to the five Southern Cone govern-
 ments.

2. [redacted] Condor of- (b)(1)
 officials approved a program last year that would allow (b)(3)
 one member country to publish propaganda useful to an-
 other. In this case Chilean propaganda experts com-
 posed a story about alleged interviews between former
 Chilean President Frei and high US political leaders.
 The story, subsequently published in the Argentine press,
 suggested that the criticism directed against the Chilean
 government during the US election campaign had been in-
 spired by Frei during his meetings with US politicians.

3. Chilean propagandists apparently were able to
 take advantage of a trip Frei made to the US last fall.
 They also were aware that several Christian Democratic
 leaders visited Washington and held discussions with
 certain high ranking American politicians. Frei's at-
 tendance at a seminar sponsored by the Atlantic Council
 at the University of Georgia--which took place at Sea

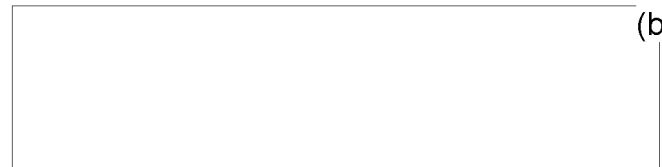
~~SECRET~~ [redacted]

(b)(3)

Island, Georgia--added substance to charges contained in the propaganda.

4. Frei is a well-known international figure and this, plus his stature within Chile, has allowed him to operate with relative freedom, despite the political ban in force since the military coup in 1973. Frei has also been able to protect the Christian Democrats--Chile's largest democratic political party--from government censure. Should the Chilean government be able to prove that Frei indeed held substantive conversations with senior US political leaders, the former president's position would be eroded substantially within Chile.

5. Condor's propaganda program adds a new dimension to the efforts of Southern Cone governments to undermine potential opponents--even those representing the center or moderate left of the political spectrum.



(b)(3)

Office of
Regional & Political Analysis

~~SECRET~~



(b)(3)

*Subject file
(Cuba)*

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDI
7E44

I am sending a copy of this memorandum to CRG for consideration as an addition or a supplement to the PDB. They will check with you before taking any action on my suggestion.



Acting Director,
Center for Policy Support

Date 14 January 1977

(b)(3)

FORM 5-75 101 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS