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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP



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~~INTELLIGENCE REPORT~~

COUNTRY Chile
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1. Ricardo Fonseca, Secretary General of the Communist Party of Chile, has reportedly been relegated to a secondary position in the active direction of Communist affairs. Galo Gonzalez, Chief of Discipline and Control, has assumed temporary command of Communist activities. During what the Communists considered to be a crisis, Gonzalez has been bending every effort to prevent the Communist Party from being declared illegal in Chile.
2. Carlos Rossales, Communist Party leader, has been in conversation with numerous senators and congressmen. He has even approached legislators affiliated with political parties of the Right, seeking all possible assistance in preventing the Government from declaring the Communist Party illegal. He tries to convince those whom he approaches that any declaration of illegality of the Communist Party would be tantamount to the end of traditional democracy in Chile.
3. Cesar Godoy Urrutia, a leader of the Communist Party, has expressed great concern to his friends and confidants over the possibility of repression of the Communist Party in Chile.
4. Luis Corvalan, editor of the Communist newspaper El Siglo, stated the following in direct personal conversation:

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"We have not provoked this strike. The coal strike is purely economic. The workers are fighting because they cannot live on 30 pesos a day. We, as Communists and as members of a party of the workers, are obliged to support the laborers in their petitions. Our union leaders are under obligation to fight for better conditions. They were elected to their posts of leadership in order to accomplish such goals. The economic situation which brought on the coal strike will naturally be utilized by the Communist Party. The Party will coordinate all that it has learned from many years of fighting in order to gain for the workers that which they desire. Our leaders are not very intellectual. They do not have university degrees, but they have learned through years of fighting how to gain a few more centavos. As Communists, we cannot retreat now. We must stand firm. In any event, we must not lose what we have gained. If we lose now, they will persecute us. It seems that they will even kill us rather than either improve the conditions of the coal workers, who have been dying of hunger, or change the deplorable conditions of the farm hands. Persecutions will only make us fight harder at the present time."

Corvalan then criticized President Gabriel Gonzalez Videla and described him as being "completely disoriented and confused."

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