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Nazis Abound in South America

Are the horrors of Nazi Germany being relived in South America through an unholy alliance between right-wing totalitarian regimes and war criminals from Adolf Hitler's Third Reich? A top-secret Senate report raises this disquieting possibility.

Over the years, we have reported eyewitness accounts of the unspeakable methods of torture used by the military dictators of Latin America against political opponents and their suspected allies. Women are raped repeatedly while their husbands are forced to watch; babies are tortured in front of their parents. Uncooperative suspects are asphyxiated in piles of excrement, or roasted to death over barbecue pits.

Apparently, it is no coincidence that some of these dictatorships are havens for Nazi war criminals who managed to escape the collapse of Hitler's Germany in 1945. Competent sources have told our associate Dale Van Atta that Nazi refugees have offered their inhuman expertise to the secret police of their adopted countries and may even be directing some of the Hitler-style torture and extermination of political dissidents.

And it may be no coincidence that five of the countries named in the torture charges—Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Brazil and Argentina—are also members of an international assassination consortium known as "Operation Condor." As we reported earlier, Condor's "Phase Three" section first identifies common enemies in foreign countries (including the United States), then tracks them down and finally eliminates them. The dynamite execu-

tion of Chilean exile leader Orlando Letelier in Washington three years ago was listed by the FBI as a possible Condor operation.

DINA, the infamous secret police of Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet, was responsible for the Letelier murder, according to the confessed hit man. And a top-secret Senate report raises the possibility that DINA, carrying on under a new name after Pinochet "reformed" it, is perpetrating SS-type brutalities at a Nazi enclave called "The Colony" at Parral, Linares Province, Chile.

"An informed source indicated that DINA has maintained a detention center inside The Colony, and there are allegations that torture has taken place there," the secret report states. "Allegations also have been made that German personnel, who are described as Gestapo and SS ex-officers, have given instruction in torture techniques and have actually taken part in the application of these techniques."

The Colony, a commune officially named "La Dignidad" ("Noble Bearing"), was established on a 3,000-acre tract by refugee German Luftwaffe officers at the end of World War II. CIA sources have identified the leader as Franz Pfeiffer Richter, referred to as "The Commander." He runs The Colony in military fashion; the men wear uniforms and maintain close ties with Chilean military officials, particularly with Chilean Air Force officers.

"The Colony maintains complete autonomy over its territory," the report states. "Investigations into its activities have always come to an abrupt halt."

The Colony's main source of liveli-

hood for its 250 men, women and children is a large dairy farm. But it has "modern, sophisticated, German-made communications equipment which allows it to maintain contact with other pro-Nazi elements throughout South America and Europe," the report notes, adding: "The Colony has received large amounts of money over the years, probably from German Nazis."

And DINA, the Chilean military's tinhorn Gestapo, used the Colony's international contacts to further its murderous dirty work in foreign countries, the report concludes.

Adolf Hitler's "1,000-Year Reich" may not have perished in the rubble of Berlin after all.