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## Weekly Review

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Pinochet

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## CHILE: THINKING AHEAD

President Pinochet is considering making some basic changes in the military government, either before or in conjunction with the second anniversary of the military take-over in September. The second he is thinking of carrying the recent trend toward greater use of apolitical civilian expertise to its logical conclusion—an all-civilian cabinet. The President apparently also is interested in civilian participation in a revamped pseudo-legislative structure that presumably would fulfill the functions now performed by the all-military Advisory Committee to the Junta.

Pinochet even mentioned creation of a constituent assembly, but such a dramatic move is not likely in the near term.

Some of the President's ideas have not been enthusiastically received in the armed forces. Negative reaction probably is strongest in the navy and air force, where there already is some discontent over Pinochet's expanding presidential prerogatives. Navy officers have been especially distressed over what they believe has been a far too passive performance by their junta representative, Admiral Merino. They will be suspicious of any changes that appear to have the potential for further reducing the navy's influence in the government. Considerable maneuvering within and among the services is likely as Pinochet's plans take shape over the next several months.

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