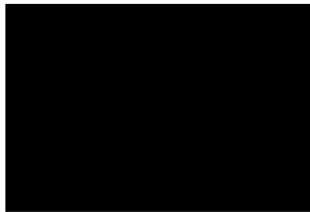


~~Top Secret~~ 215

(Security Classification)

CONTROL NO. [REDACTED]

ROUTING			
TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1			
2			
3			
4			
ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN	
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE	
REMARKS:			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NO.			DATE



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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Friday April 29, 1977 [REDACTED]



Warning Notice

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

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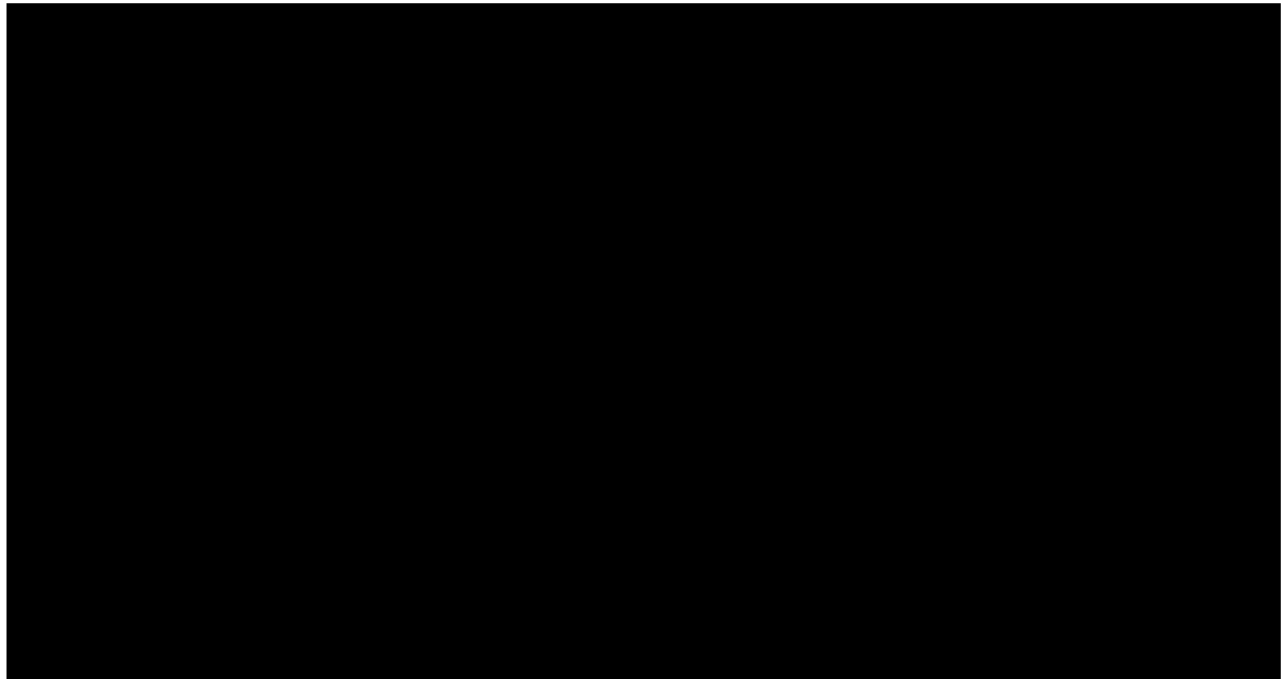
~~Top Secret~~

(Security Classification)

F2 IMPDET

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]
NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/ORCON

NR



CHILE: Church-State Relations

[REDACTED] //Cardinal Silva, Primate of Chile, [REDACTED] has Vatican backing for his efforts to increase pressure on the Pinochet government to improve its respect for human rights. The clergy's growing militance may be causing the government to hesitate about taking any additional repressive steps that might further antagonize its critics.//

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[REDACTED] //President Pinochet, reacting in an uncharacteristically conciliatory manner, has backed off for the moment from some of the heavy-handed policies that recently incited bitter condemnation from the Catholic Church, the Christian Democratic Party, labor leaders, the press, and leading intellectuals. Pinochet is probably concerned that he had overstepped himself by enacting a series of harsh measures advocated by a close circle of extreme rightist advisers.//

[REDACTED] //To avert a confrontation with the Catholic Church and embarrassment abroad, Pinochet abruptly ousted Justice Minister Damilano on April 20. The minister, a brusque lawyer and a crony of Pinochet with a penchant for stepping on toes, was in office for just over a month. He aroused the ire of the

Catholic hierarchy by publicly attacking a group of bishops for their strong censure of social and political conditions in Chile.//

[REDACTED] //Damilano's statements appeared in print at a time when Pinochet has been cautiously seeking to avoid friction with the church. [REDACTED] the President clearly disavowed the views of the outspoken minister.//

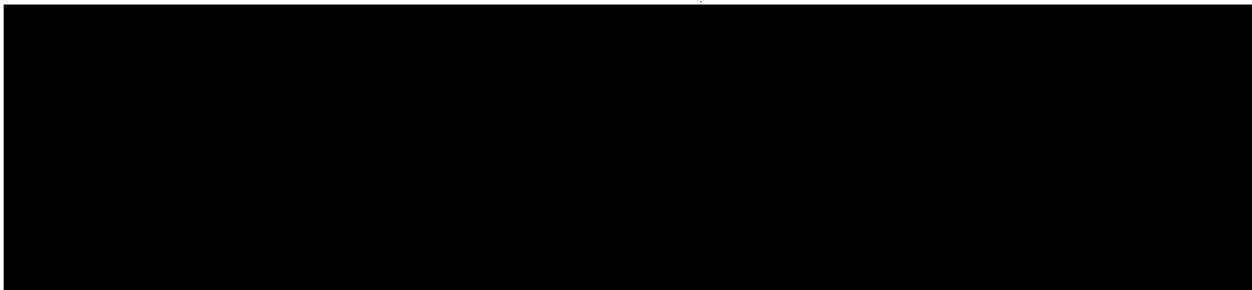
[REDACTED] //Although junta and church leaders have gone to some lengths to keep their dispute from leading to a sharp break, the church seems likely to assume a more belligerent attitude in the future. So far, the most striking evidence of increasing stridency has been a church attack on the junta for dissolving Chile's remaining democratic political parties last month. The church is virtually the only stronghold of criticism that has not been silenced by the government.//

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[REDACTED] //Silva [REDACTED] to press the junta for improvement in its respect for human rights. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] excommunication of the president and junta members has not been ruled out as a last resort.//

[REDACTED] //May Day observances planned by the church and Christian Democratic labor leaders could provide a platform for the expression of antigovernment views. They will probably be careful, however, to refrain from any action that might provoke a showdown. [REDACTED]



NR