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(See inside cover)

HR



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blow when its second-in-command, Dagoberto Perez Vargas, was killed by police in a shootout near Santiago on October 15. Five other members were captured, and four who escaped are being tracked by police. One of the escapees is [REDACTED] believed by officials to be Andres Pascal Allende, the former president's nephew, who became leader of the MIR when its former chief was shot down by security forces a year ago. His capture or death would be a major setback for the group.

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Large quantities of weapons, many of which had been hidden prior to the military take-over, were discovered during the past month [REDACTED] acted on leads [REDACTED] and interrogation of its members. The arms in most cases were probably intended for the more violence-prone MIR or left-wing Socialists. The discovery of six caches of medical supplies and plastic surgery equipment for a clinic suggests that efforts were under way to build up the underground organization and possibly prepare for an eventual struggle against the regime.

The government has also arrested several dozen leftists on grounds of printing and distributing pamphlets, presumably of an anti-government nature.

Terrorist action by the MIR has become increasingly rare as a result of the vigilant countermeasures by the military government. In a recent communique published in Argentina, the MIR warned that it was prepared to begin "a vast reprisal" against firms and governments that invest in Chile. There have been no indications, however, that the group is able to mount a terrorist offensive of any magnitude. At most, it is capable of isolated acts of violence, and chances of this may be reduced as government raids drive it further on the defensive.

CHILE: SECURITY CRACKDOWN

Wide-ranging actions by Chilean security forces in recent weeks suggest that the government is making a determined and apparently successful effort to destroy vestiges of underground extremist organizations.

The Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), which supported Salvador Allende's Popular Unity government, was dealt a severe

Recent successes will reinforce the determination of the Pinochet government to maintain strict security measures. The government has frequently justified its hard-line tactics as the major factor in reducing leftist-inspired violence, and it now can point to evidence that a subversive threat still exists. [REDACTED]