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TEXT

SUBJECT: ITEMS ON INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM - 05 SEPTEMBER 1991

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TERRORISM REVIEW [REDACTED]

Declassified and  
Approved for Release  
July 2000

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ITEM 3. ANTI-US TERRORISM IN CHILE--THE THREAT CONTINUES [REDACTED]

CHILEAN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TARGETING SYMBOLS OF US INFLUENCE--WHICH WERE ATTACKED IN RECORD NUMBERS IN 1990 AND EARLY 1991--BUT THERE ARE SIGNS THAT THE GOVERNMENT MAY BE COMING TO GRIPS WITH ITS TERRORISM PROBLEM. SINCE THE END OF THE PINOCHET REGIME IN MARCH 1990, SEVERAL FAR-LEFT GROUPS, INCLUDING THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHILE (PCCH), HAVE MOVED AWAY FROM TERRORIST TACTICS, BUT OTHER, MORE EXTREME ORGANIZATIONS CONTINUE TO USE ARMED ACTION IN PURSUIT OF THEIR POLITICAL GOALS. THESE GROUPS ARE STRONGLY ANTI-US AND HAVE TARGETED US COMMERCIAL, RELIGIOUS, AND OFFICIAL INTERESTS IN PART TO GRAB MEDIA HEADLINES AND IN PART TO DRIVE THOSE INTERESTS OUT OF CHILE. [REDACTED]

IN RECENT MONTHS, EXCESSES BY TERRORIST GROUPS--PRIMARILY THE MANUEL RODRIGUEZ PATRIOTIC FRONT/DISSIDENTS (FPMR/D) AND THE LAUTARO YOUTH MOVEMENT (MJL)--HAVE CAUSED A POPULAR BACKLASH AND STIFFENED CHILEAN POPULAR AND GOVERNMENT RESOLVE TO COMBAT TERRORISM. THE PUBLIC WAS SHARPLY CRITICAL OF THE APRIL 1990 TERRORIST

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[REDACTED]

ASSASSINATIONS OF TWO POLITICAL LEADERS AND THE FREQUENT ATTACKS AGAINST YOUNG CARABINEROS. THIS RESOLVE BODES WELL FOR EVENTUAL HEADWAY ON THE PROBLEM, ALTHOUGH THE CARABINEROS STILL HAVE A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE TO GO IN DEVELOPING A CAPABILITY TO COUNTER TERRORIST TACTICS. [REDACTED]

#### A PROFILE OF ANTI-US TERRORISM

ANTI-US TERRORIST INCIDENTS GREW STEADILY OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS FROM ONLY SIX IN 1988 TO AT LEAST 65 IN 1990. ALTHOUGH ON A PURELY NUMERICAL BASIS, THIS PUT CHILE IN THE WORLDWIDE LEAD FOR SUCH INCIDENTS, MOST WERE LOW-LEVEL BOMBINGS DIRECTED AGAINST US COMMERCIAL AND RELIGIOUS FACILITIES AND DESIGNED TO AVOID OR MINIMIZE CASUALTIES. FORTY-SIX OF THE 65 ANTI-US ATTACKS IN 1990 WERE DIRECTED AT MORMON CHURCH FACILITIES. [REDACTED]

LATE IN 1990, THE TERRORISTS TARGETED OFFICIAL US PERSONNEL FOR INJURY OR DEATH, APPARENTLY IN AN EFFORT TO EXPLOIT MEDIA ATTENTION ON THE US ROLE IN THE GULF WAR. NO US CITIZEN WAS KILLED IN THESE INCIDENTS, BUT THE ATTACKS LED TO THE DEATH OF ONE CANADIAN AND THE WOUNDING OF FIVE US CITIZENS. THIRTY-TWO ANTI-US INCIDENTS RESULTED IN DEATH, INJURY, OR SUBSTANTIAL STRUCTURAL DAMAGE IN CHILE DURING 1990. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE END OF THE GULF WAR, THE TERRORISTS TEMPORARILY SLOWED ATTACKS AGAINST US INTERESTS. LOW-LEVEL BOMBINGS OF US COMMERCIAL AND RELIGIOUS INTERESTS BECAME MORE FREQUENT AGAIN IN LATE JUNE. [REDACTED]

IN THE ANTITANK ROCKET ATTACK AGAINST THE US EMBASSY MARINE GUARD VAN IN SANTIAGO ON 16 FEBRUARY 1991, THE TERRORISTS DEMONSTRATED THEIR CAPABILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO HIT US TARGETS WITH LETHAL FORCE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SINCE THE END OF THE GULF WAR, THERE HAVE BEEN NO ATTACKS AGAINST US OFFICIAL INTERESTS OR PERSONNEL. (S NF)

#### COUNTERING TERRORISM

CHILE PROBABLY HAS BETTER LONG-TERM PROSPECTS FOR CONTROLLING ITS TERRORIST PROBLEM THAN OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE GEOGRAPHIC FACT OF THE LONG, NARROW COUNTRY WITH LARGE UNINHABITABLE AREAS LIMITS THE ABILITY OF THE TERRORISTS TO ESTABLISH STRONG RURAL BASES AND FORCES AN URBAN APPROACH. MOREOVER, THERE IS LITTLE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, AND EVEN THE LARGE PCCH HAS LOST CREDIBILITY BECAUSE OF ITS PUBLIC EQUIVOCATION ON TERRORIST TACTICS. [REDACTED]

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THE ASSASSINATION OF CHILEAN SENATOR JAIME GUZMAN IN APRIL 1991 AND A LARGE NUMBER OF TERRORIST INCIDENTS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR HAVE HEIGHTENED PUBLIC CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT'S COUNTERTERRORIST PROGRAM. OPPOSITION CRITICISM GAINED CREDIBILITY WITH THE ARREST OF AN ARMED EXTREMIST WHO HAD BEEN PARDONED IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE AYLWIN PRESIDENCY, AND GUZMAN'S MURDER CAPPED THE CRITICS' ARGUMENT. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ON 15 MARCH, PRESIDENT AYLWIN ANNOUNCED A COMPREHENSIVE COUNTERVIOLENCE PROGRAM, WHICH INCLUDES:

--ERADICATING CRIMINAL HANGOUTS.

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--AUGMENTING THE CARABINEROS AND INVESTIGATIONS POLICE BUDGETS AND WORKING TO IMPROVE THEIR CAPABILITIES.

--INCREASING POLICE PATROLS.

--REFORMING THE LEGAL CODE.

--IMPOSING MINIMUM SECURITY MEASURES FOR BANKS.

--APPLYING THE ANTITERRORIST LAW LESS NARROWLY TO ALLOW MORE INCARCERATIONS.

SELECTED ANTI-US TERRORIST INCIDENTS IN CHILE

1988

ANTI-US INCIDENTS: 6. TWO CAUSED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE OR INJURY . . . TWO MORMON ATTACKS.

1 JUNE SANTIAGO: A BOMB AT A US CITIBANK BRANCH INJURES A PASSERBY AND DAMAGES THE BANK.

19 JULY VALPARAISO: UNKNOWN PERSONS BOMB A MORMON CHURCH, INJURING THREE CHILEAN CHILDREN.

1989

ANTI-US INCIDENTS: 21. FIVE CAUSED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE OR INJURY, ONE DEATH . . . 15 MORMON ATTACKS.

6 APRIL SANTIAGO: AN FPMR BOMB DAMAGES THE US-CHILEAN BINATIONAL CENTER.

4 JULY SANTIAGO: THE MJL FORCES A US CITIZEN TO DISROBE IN FRONT OF A MORMON CONGREGATION, IGNITES GASOLINE INSIDE THE CHAPEL, AND PLACES A BOMB--LATER DEACTIVATED--AT THE DOOR.

15 JULY SANTIAGO: THE MJL HOLDS A MORMON CHAPEL CUSTODIAN AT GUNPOINT WHILE IGNITING GASOLINE INSIDE.

26 SEPTEMBER SANTIAGO: A CHILEAN GROUP DETONATES A BOMB ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE US EMBASSY, INJURING A CONTRACT GUARD.

23 NOVEMBER SANTIAGO: AN FPMR BOMB AT A MORMON CHURCH KILLS ONE CHILEAN AND INJURES ANOTHER.

21 DECEMBER TEMUCO: UNKNOWN PERSONS BOMB THE US-CHILEAN BINATIONAL CENTER.

24 AND

27 DECEMBER SANTIAGO AND QUILPUE: THE FPMR/D BOMBED THREE MORMON CHURCHES, PAINTS SIGNS NEARBY READING ''YANKEES OUT OF PANAMA.''

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28 DECEMBER SANTIAGO: THE FPMR DETONATED A BOMB INSIDE THE US-CHILEAN BINATIONAL CENTER; NO INJURIES ARE REPORTED AMONG STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN THE BUILDING.

1990

ANTI-US INCIDENTS: 65. AT LEAST 16 CAUSED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE OR INJURY, ONE DEATH . . . 46 MORMON ATTACKS.

14 MAY SANTIAGO: TWO FPMR/D ROCKET-PROPELLED GRENADES INJURE A CONTRACT GUARD AND DAMAGE TWO VEHICLES AT THE US CONSULAR ANNEX.

SANTIAGO: THE FPMR/D DETONATES BOMBS IN A MORMON CHAPEL; NO INJURIES AMONG THE 30 PEOPLE INSIDE.

30 MAY SANTIAGO: A BOMB EXTENSIVELY DAMAGES A MORMON CHURCH.

26 JUNE SANTIAGO: AN FPMR/D BOMB EXTENSIVELY DAMAGES A MORMON CHAPEL.

27 JULY SANTIAGO: THE MJL IGNITES KEROSENE INSIDE A MORMON CHAPEL AND LEAVES ANTI-AMERICAN, PRO-CUBAN LITERATURE.

28 JULY SANTIAGO: THE MJL FIREBOMBS A MORMON CHAPEL, PAINTING 'YANKEES OUT OF CHILE' ON THE WALLS.

14 AUGUST SANTIAGO: TWO CITIBANK BRANCHES ARE BOMBED, SERIOUSLY INJURING A CHILEAN.

26 AUGUST SANTIAGO: TERRORISTS SET FIRE TO TWO MORMON CHAPELS WHILE THEY WERE OCCUPIED, PISTOL-WHIPPING A US CITIZEN.

4 SEPTEMBER COPIAPO: THE FPMR/D BOMBS A MORMON CHAPEL, CAUSING EXTENSIVE DAMAGE.

11 SEPTEMBER TALCAHUANO: UNKNOWN PERSONS BOMB A SALVATION ARMY CHURCH AND CHILDREN'S HOME.

5 OCTOBER SANTIAGO: AN MJL BOMB EXTENSIVELY DAMAGES A MORMON CHAPEL.

3 NOVEMBER VINA DEL MAR: AN FPMR/D BOMB AT A RESTAURANT FREQUENTED BY FOREIGNERS INJURES EIGHT PEOPLE, INCLUDING THREE US SAILORS AND THREE UK CITIZENS.

17 NOVEMBER SANTIAGO: AN FPMR/D BOMB INSIDE A SOFTBALL BAT KILLS ONE CANADIAN AND SERIOUSLY INJURES A US EMBASSY EMPLOYEE AND TWO CHILEANS.

1 DECEMBER SANTIAGO: THE MJL FIRES ON THE RESIDENCE OF A MORMON FAMILY WHERE TWO US CITIZENS WERE LIVING.

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5 DECEMBER SANTIAGO: A SMALL FPMR/D BOMB EXPLODES ACROSS THE STREET FROM A HOTEL HOUSING AIDES ACCOMPANYING PRESIDENT BUSH ON HIS LATIN AMERICAN TOUR.

SANTIAGO: TERRORISTS SET FIRE TO TWO MORMON CHURCHES AND SPRAY-PAINT ANTI-US, ANTI-BUSH STATEMENTS NEARBY.

6 DECEMBER SANTIAGO: A SMALL FPMR/D BOMB EXPLODES IN A CROWDED AREA OF A MCDONALD'S RESTAURANT, BUT CAUSES NO INJURIES.

16 DECEMBER SANTIAGO: A FIRE SET BY ARMED MJL TERRORISTS DESTROYS A MORMON CHAPEL.

1991

THROUGH JULY 1991 ABOUT 40 ANTI-US ATTACKS OCCURRED IN CHILE, 25 DURING THE GULF WAR. 12 CAUSED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE OR INJURY . . . 22 MORMON ATTACKS.

16 JANUARY VINA DEL MAR: A FIREBOMB DESTROYS A MORMON CHURCH.

LA SERENA: A BOMB HEAVILY DAMAGES A MORMON CHURCH.

18 JANUARY SANTIAGO: THREE US BANKS ARE FIREBOMBED.

30 JANUARY SANTIAGO: A US BANK IS BOMBED, CAUSING EXTENSIVE DAMAGE.

2 FEBRUARY SANTIAGO: A MORMON CHURCH IS BOMBED, AND A CALLER LINKS THE BOMBING TO US ACTIONS IN THE PERSIAN GULF.

16 FEBRUARY SANTIAGO: A CAR BLOCKS A US MARINE VAN LEAVING THE MARINE HOUSE WHILE THE FPMR/D FIRES AN ANTITANK ROCKET; THE ROCKET FAILS TO EXPLODE, BUT ATTACKERS SPRAY THE VAN WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE AS THEY LEAVE. ONE MARINE IS SERIOUSLY INJURED.

3 MARCH SANTIAGO: THE MJL FORCE A MORMON CONGREGATION FROM ITS CHURCH AND SET FIRE TO THE BUILDING.

14 APRIL SANTIAGO: THE MJL FIREBOMB A MORMON CHURCH.

5 JULY SANTIAGO: A PROBABLE FPMR/D GRENADE INJURES A GUARD AT A US TRANSPORT COMPANY OFFICE.

7 JULY SANTIAGO: THE FPMR/D FIRES ON AND THROWS A BOMB AT A MORMON CHAPEL, INJURING ONE PERSON.

27 JULY SANTIAGO: PROBABLE MJL MEMBERS SET A MORMON CHAPEL ON FIRE.

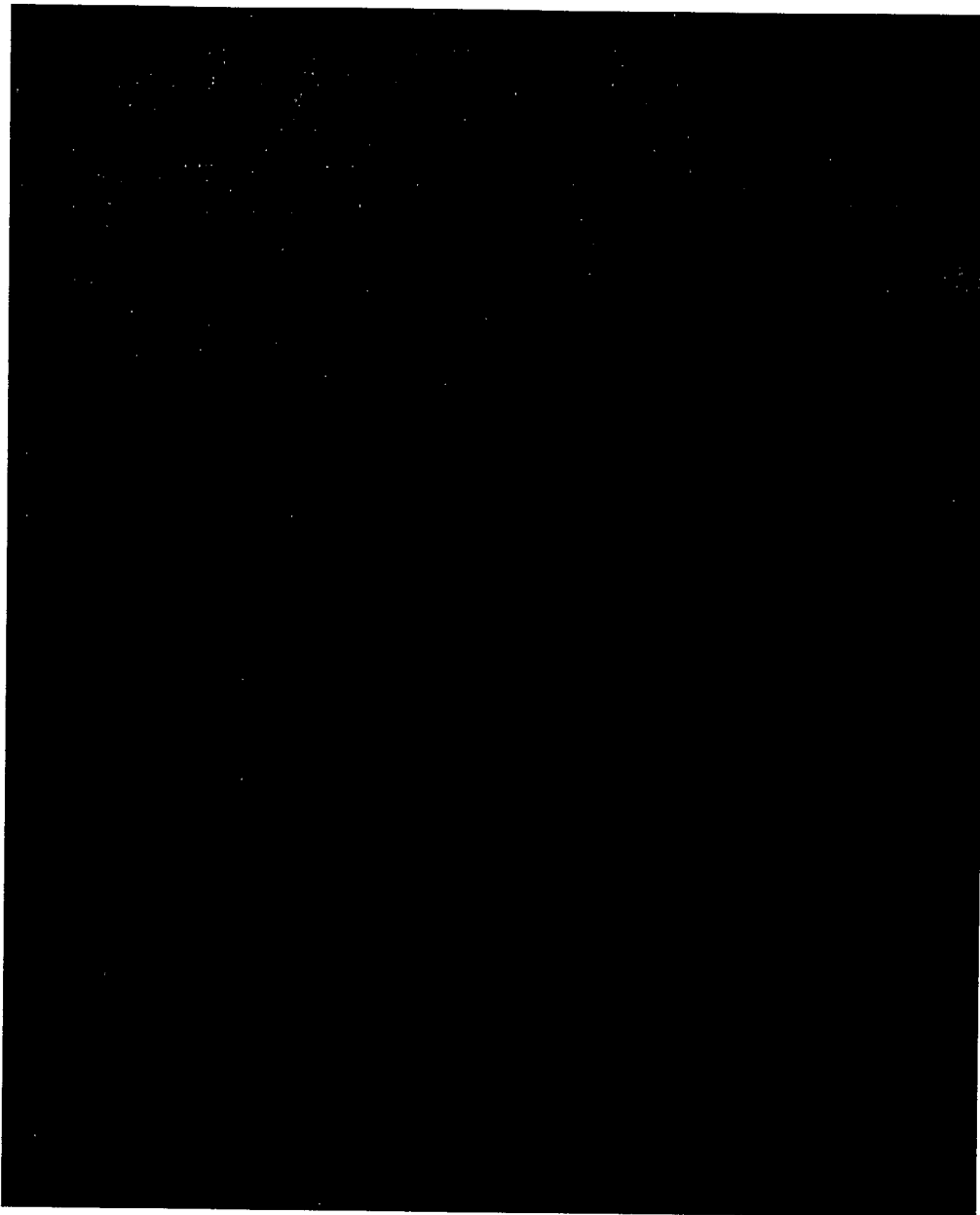
29 JULY SANTIAGO: THREE MJL MEMBERS ARE FOUND PLANTING BOMBS AT A KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN RESTAURANT DURING BUSINESS HOURS; ONE BOMB

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DETONATES BUT THE OTHER, LARGER DEVICE IS DISARMED

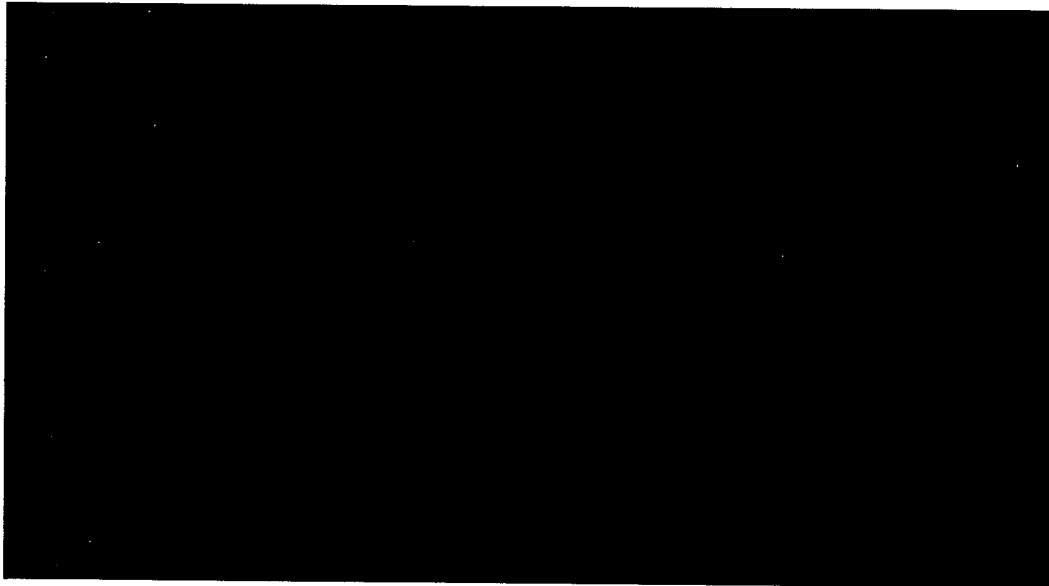
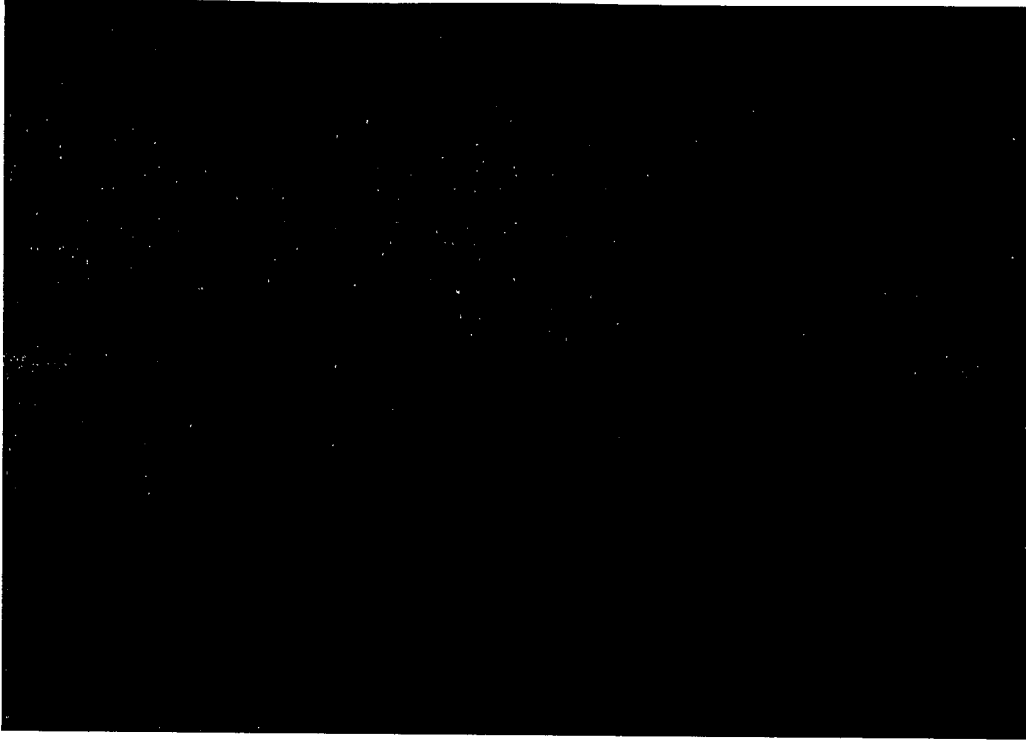
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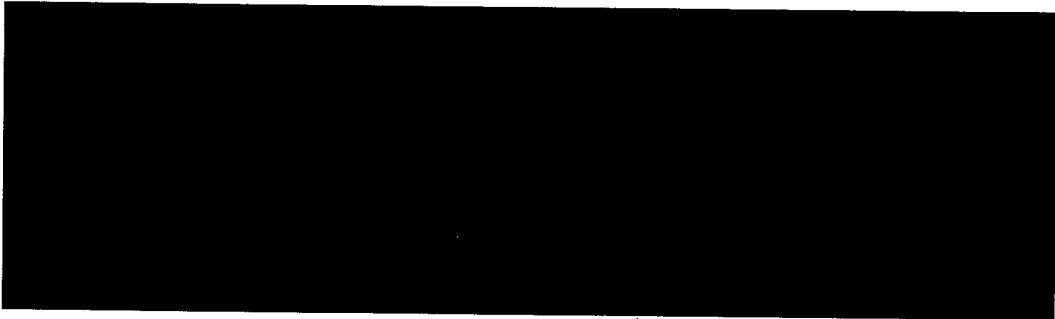
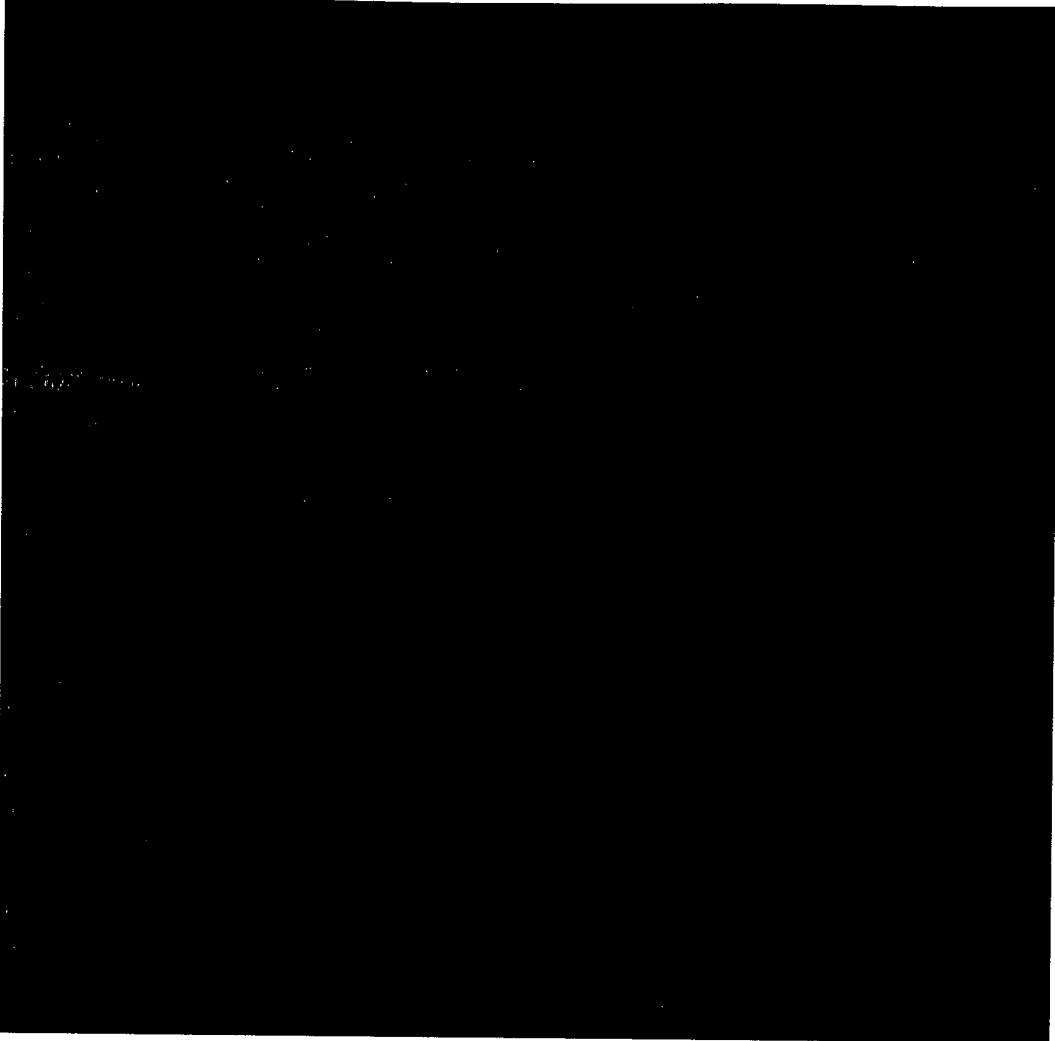


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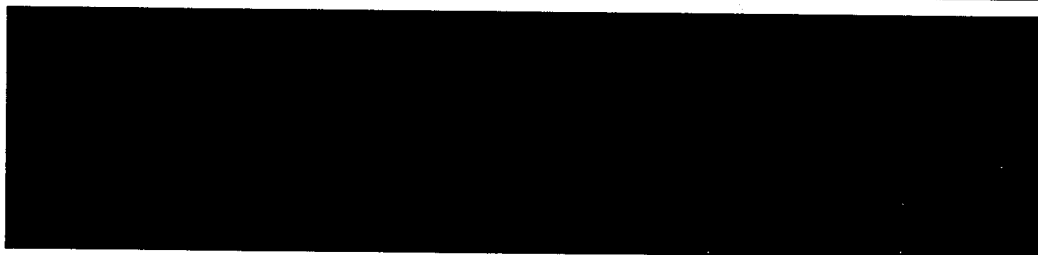
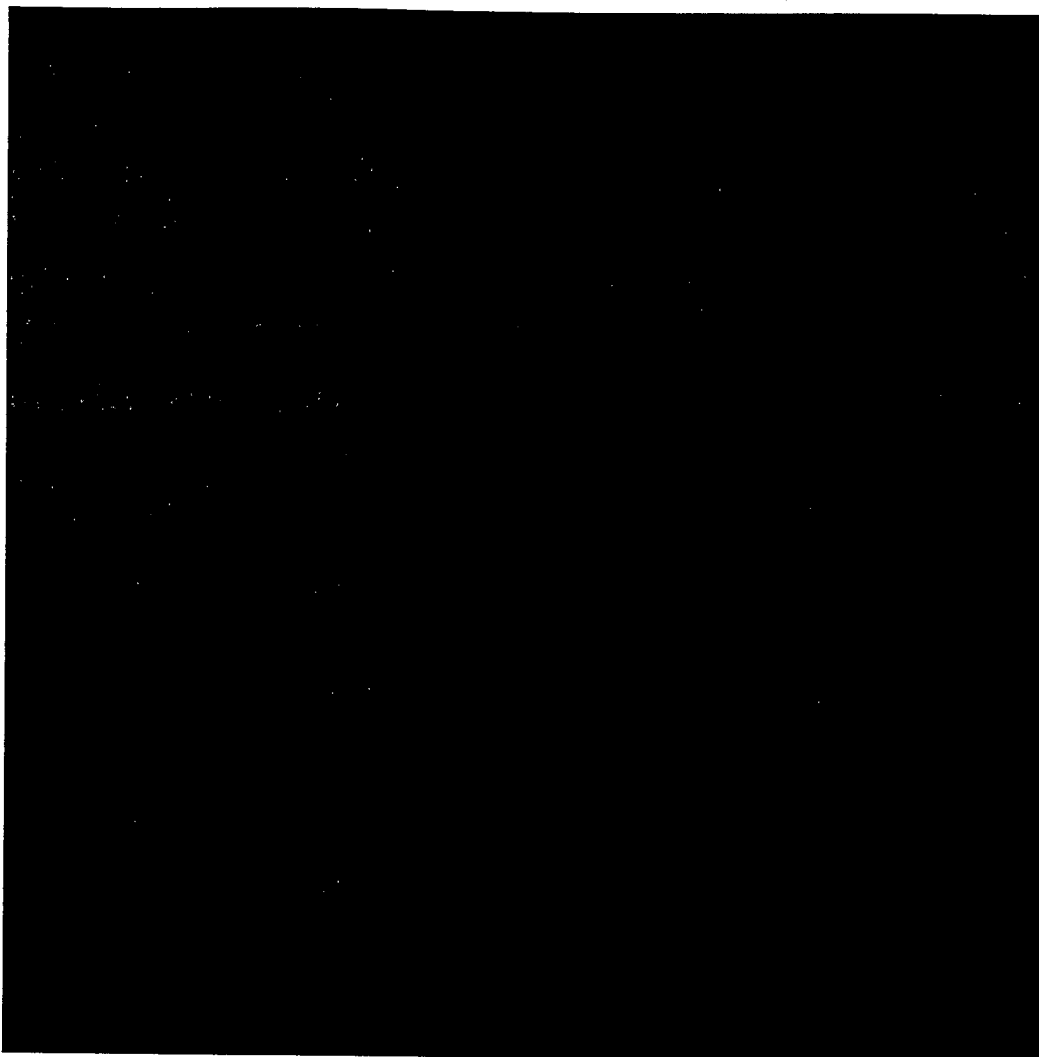
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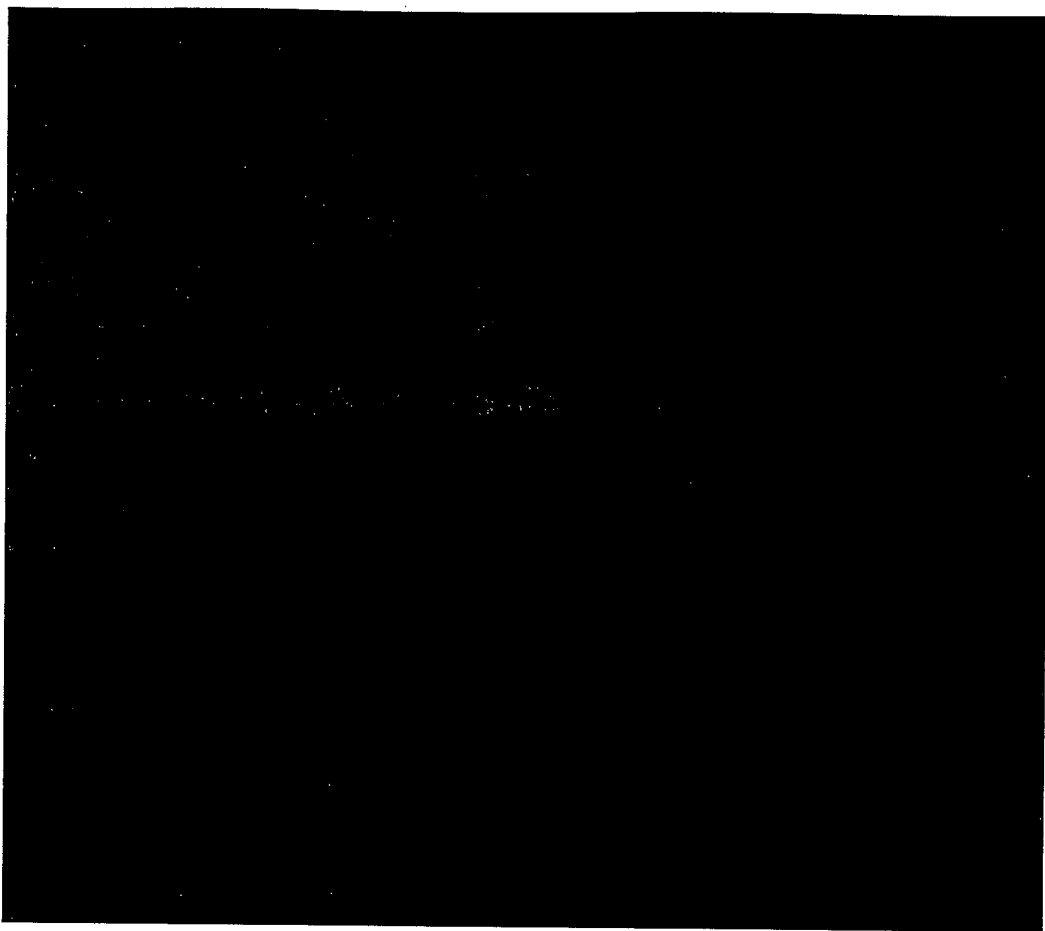
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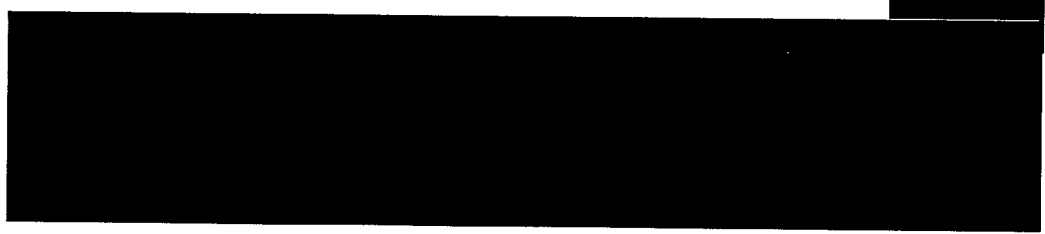
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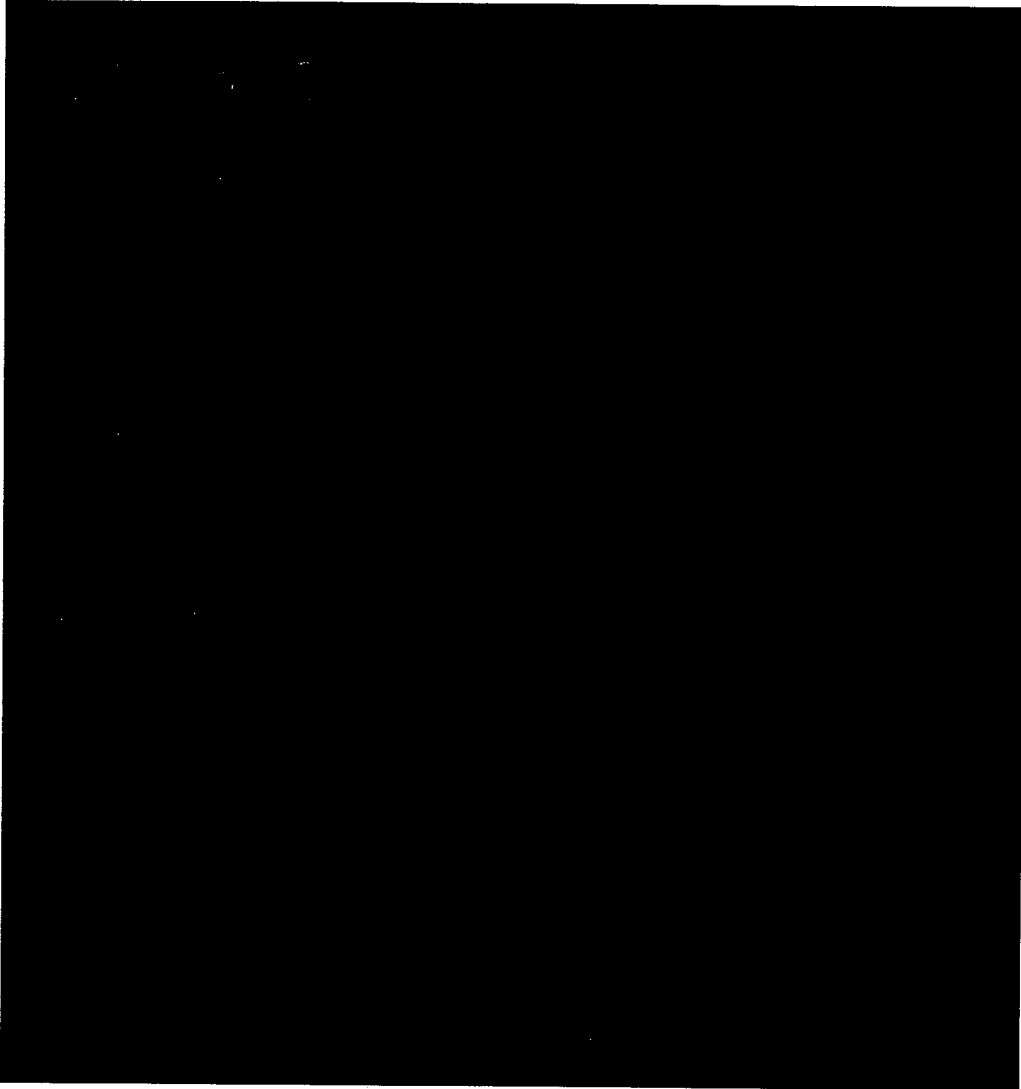
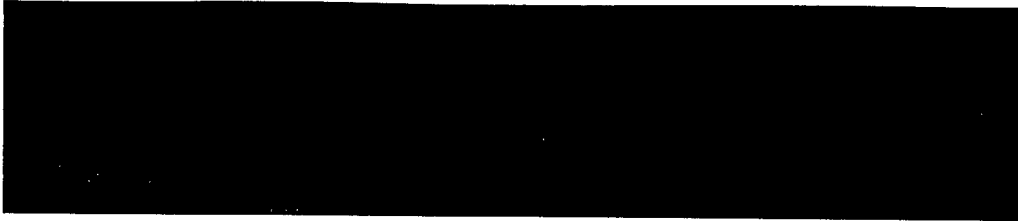
OUTLOOK FOR ANTI-US ATTACKS

US INTERESTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE A FREQUENT TERRORIST TARGET IN CHILE FOR AT LEAST THE NEAR TERM BUT THE THREAT WILL LESSEN IF SANTIAGO IMPROVES ITS COUNTERTERRORIST CAPABILITIES AND POLICIES, AS WE EXPECT. THE PATTERN OF ATTACKS WILL PROBABLY BE SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE PAST 18 MONTHS--LARGE NUMBERS OF LOW-LEVEL INCIDENTS WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF HARDER HITTING ATTACKS WHEN SOME WORLD OR LOCAL EVENT FOCUSES ATTENTION ON THE UNITED STATES. MORMON CHURCHES ARE LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO BE THE MOST FREQUENTLY ATTACKED US INTEREST.



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