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STAFF NOTES:

Latin American Trends

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Chile: Outcast At The UN

Stories circulating in UN circles suggest that an all-out campaign is being promoted to expel Chile from the coming General Assembly meeting. Although the extent of anti-Chile sentiment is difficult to gauge, there is little doubt that the image of the Pinochet government has dropped to an all-time low.

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Among the reasons cited by Chilean UN delegates for this negative attitude are:

- ...President Pinochet's refusal to allow a scheduled visit by a UN human rights investigating group.
- ...The Chilean government's welcome to a South African Davis Cup team.
- ...Pinochet's recent statements barring elections.
- ...Handouts circulated among African and Asian UN missions by the Cubans reproducing extremist and racist articles on the UN appearing in the Santiago press.
- ...Reports circulating at the UN on possible action by the Chilean junta to outlaw the Christian Democratic Party.

The chairman of the UN human rights investigating commission is extremely bitter over Pinochet's abrupt decision to turn back the group earlier this month after it had traveled as far as Lima. His resentment toward the Pinochet government was summed up in his statement to the US delegation at the New York headquarters: "People just don't behave like that." The commission's report, which is due by the end of August, will probably


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portray the junta in an unfavorable light, and it is 15c
certain to arouse further animosity within the UN
toward the Chilean regime.

To counter this adverse trend, the Chilean govern-
ment is sending good-will delegations to Africa and
the Middle East. The prospects of rallying substantial
support appear dim, however. If pressures against Chile
continue to be exerted on the international level,
Pinochet's right-wing advisers may call on him to have
the country withdraw from the United Nations altogether.



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