



[REDACTED]
STATE/INR NMCC/MC (DIA) CIA/NMCC NIC NSA TREAS SDO ONE CBS
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[REDACTED]

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

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DIST 31 MAY 1973

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[REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] COMMENT: ON 25 MAY 1973 THE [REDACTED] PRESS REPORTED RUMORS OF ORDERS ISSUED BY THE INTENDENT OF SANTIAGO FOR THE ARREST OF A LARGE NUMBER OF TRADE ASSOCIATION (GUILD) LEADERS FOR PLOTTING TO INCITE PUBLIC DISORDERS.)

2. ON 25 MAY 1973 GUILD LEADERS RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM [REDACTED] GOVERNMENT CIRCLES THAT ORDERS HAD BEEN ISSUED BY THE INTENDENT OF SANTIAGO FOR THE ARREST OF APPROXIMATELY 63 GUILD LEADERS.

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UPON RECEIVING THESE REPORTS, THE GUILD LEADERS PRESENTED THEIR INFORMATION TO GENERAL AUGUSTO PINOCHET, ACTING COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMY, WHO SUBSEQUENTLY SPOKE WITH DANIEL VERGARA, SUBSECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR. PINOCHET TOLD VERGARA THAT HE FELT THE ARREST ORDER TO BE AN UNWISE MOVE ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT. VERGARA, HOWEVER, DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH ARREST ORDERS.

3. LATER IN THE SAME DAY, REPORTS AGAIN REACHED PINOCHET THAT THE ARREST ORDERS WERE BEING PROCESSED. PINOCHET AGAIN CALLED VERGARA AND TOLD HIM THAT IF THE ORDERS WERE CARRIED OUT, THEY COULD PRECIPITATE ANOTHER GENERAL STRIKE. HE ALSO WARNED THAT THE ARMY WOULD PUBLISH A DECLARATION TO THE EFFECT THAT IT COULD NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONSEQUENCES RESULTING FROM THE ARREST OF THE GUILD LEADERS. IT IS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE GUILD LEADERS THAT THE ARREST ORDERS WERE THEN EITHER RESCINDED OR AT LEAST HELD BACK FROM FORMAL PRESENTATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INVESTIGATIONS (CHILEAN CIVIL POLICE) FOR ACTION.

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