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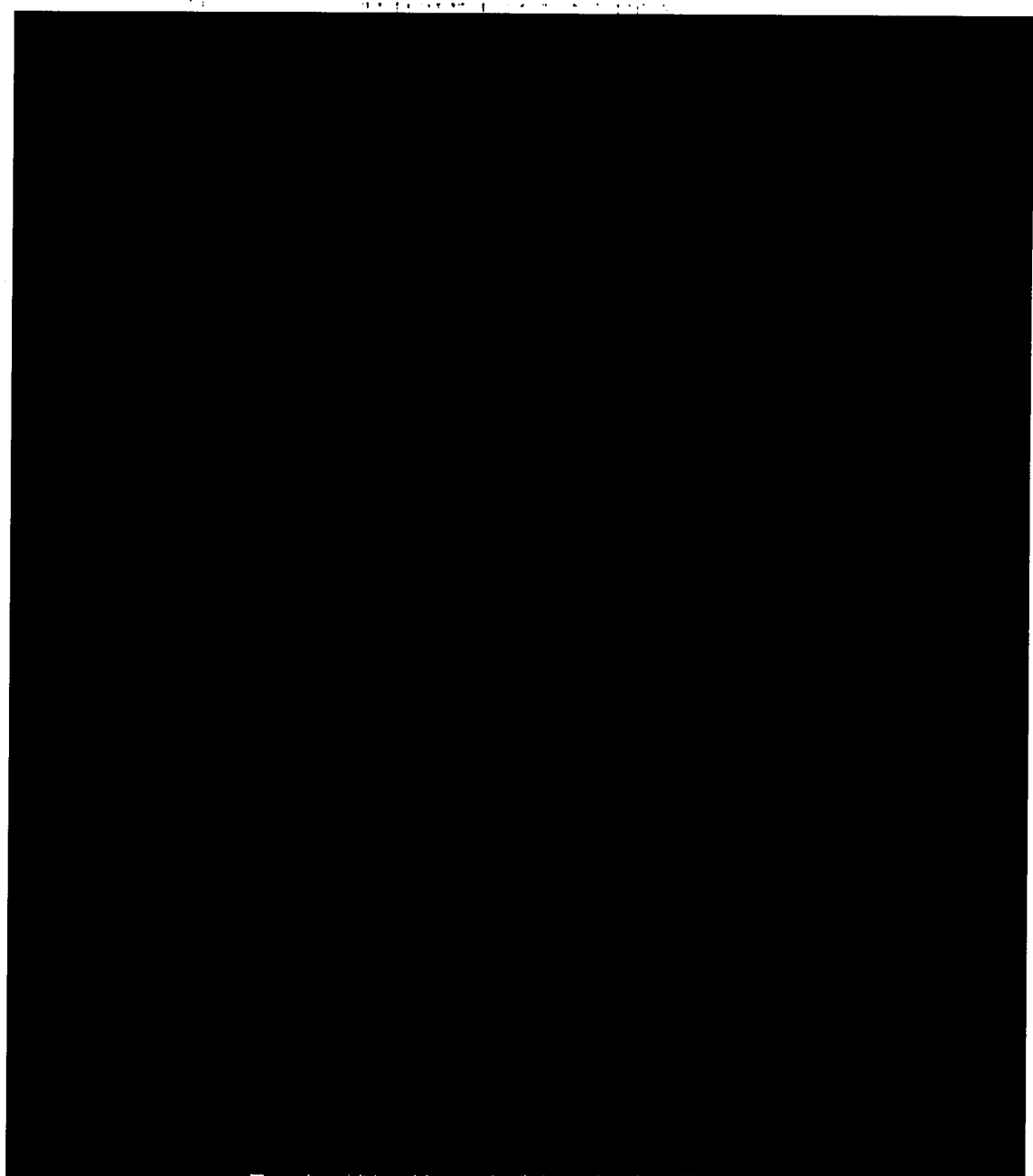
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Chile: Human Rights Violations

Growing evidence that Chilean security forces are responsible for recent disappearances of individuals who ran afoul of the military government threatens to refuel the human rights controversy.

The government's much publicized decrees providing safeguards for political prisoners and reforming internal security practices are apparently being circumvented by intelligence organizations. The number of detentions reported under the state of siege has declined and charges of torture have diminished, but unexplained disappearances appear to be occurring with more frequency.

One of the most potentially embarrassing cases concerns the disappearance last month of two wealthy

Jewish brothers [redacted] the brothers are confined in a colony run by former German Nazis who enjoy the protection of the Chilean government.

[redacted] they are in the custody of Chile's national intelligence service, which reports only to President Pinochet. Both the President and his justice minister have emphatically denied having any knowledge of the brothers' whereabouts.

The mysterious death of a Chilean who had been working for the UN in Santiago could draw bad publicity. When he was found dead in mid-July the government dismissed the death as accidental, but there are indications that he was tortured

and killed by intelligence operatives who then staged an "accident."

Considerable publicity has already been given to the recent explosion of two leading lawyers, one of whom had [redacted] taken an interest in the UN employee's death. The two were hustled out of the country on a flight to Argentina in contravention of decrees requiring warrants, identification of the arresting authority, and prompt notification of relatives.

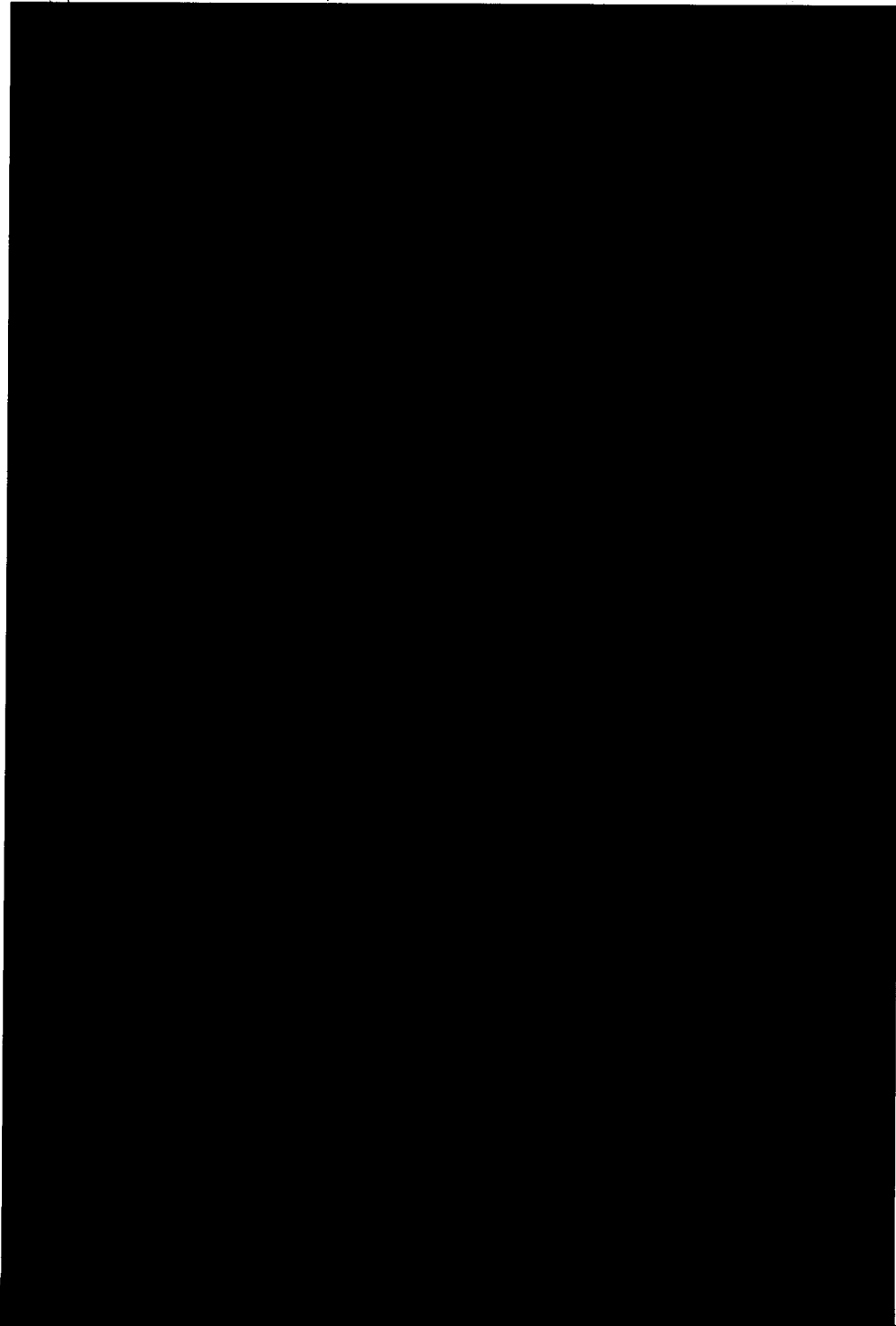
Critics of Chilean security practices have had little new material to work with in recent months, and the convening of the OAS foreign ministers in Santiago gave the government a degree of respectability it had long been seeking. The modest reforms which made this possible are clearly breaking down. [redacted]

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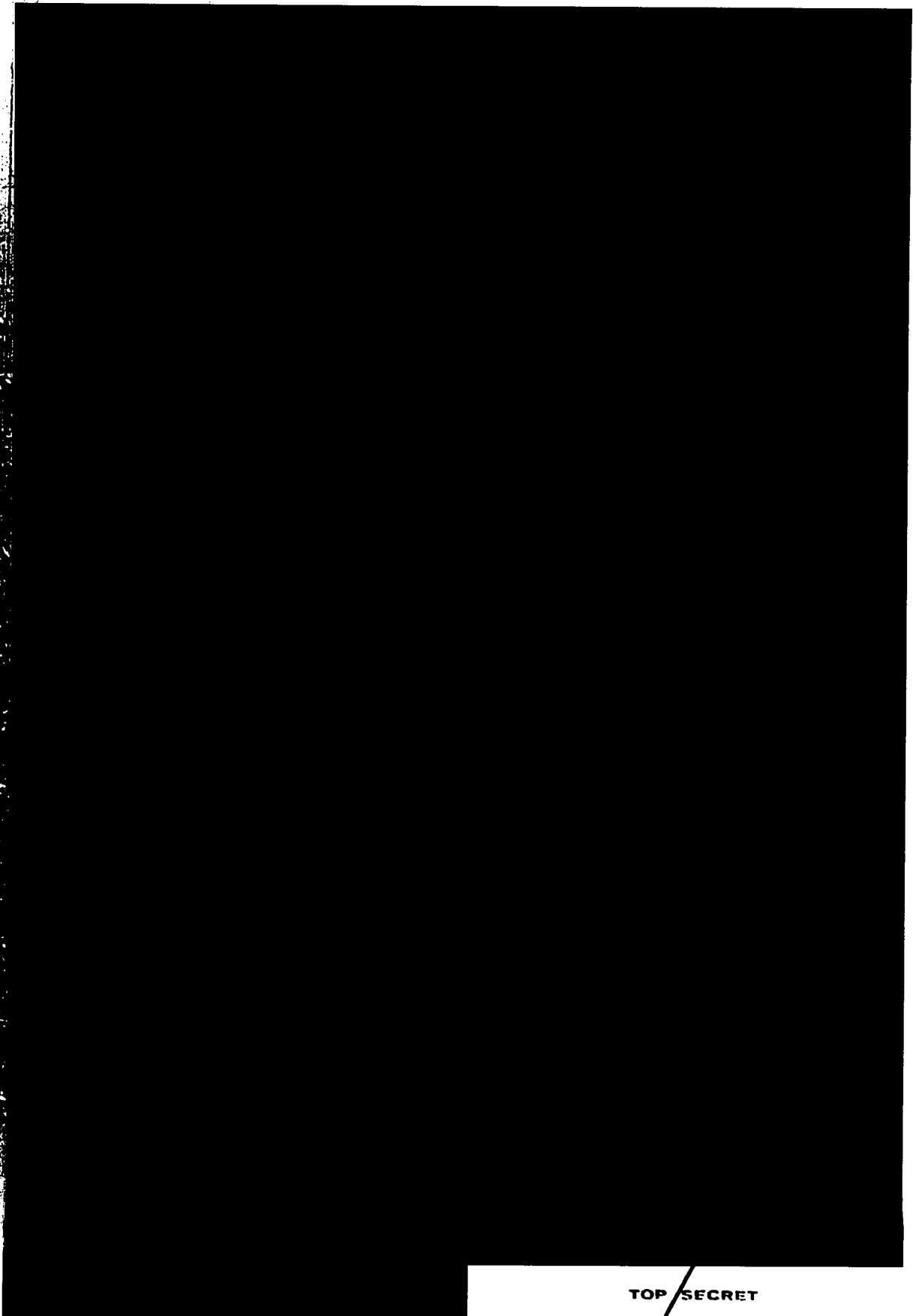
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