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INTERNAL (For AI members only)

AI Index: AMR 22/27/80
Distr: NS/CO/AD

TO: National Sections (Limited)
Chile Coordination Groups
Chile Adoption Groups

FROM: Americas Research Department (JZ/BK/MM)

DATE: 1 September 1980

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CHILE: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS DURING JULY 1980

SUMMARY

The attached chronology is a follow-up to AMR 22/18/80 and should be used in conjunction with the Recommended Actions (AMR 22/15/80) and other background information sent to you in July.

DISTRIBUTION

This document is being sent to National Sections (limited mailing), Chile Coordination Groups and Chile Adoption Groups.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CONCERN

During the past year, and especially over the past six months, there has been an alarming increase in violations of human rights in Chile: mass arrests during peaceful demonstrations; detention accompanied by ill-treatment or torture; the sentencing without trial of persons to internal exile; lack of medical attention for those who have been severely tortured or who are ill in prison; and the passing of decree laws which violate the fundamental rights of all Chileans.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

This document is intended primarily for information and campaigning purposes. It can be given to members and non-members who request information on Chile, or to those people who you feel would be of assistance to our actions on Chile. PLEASE SEE AMR 22/15/80 (sent to you previously) for recommended actions for coordination groups for specific actions to be undertaken in connection with the information provided.

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Amnesty International
International Secretariat
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August 1980

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN CHILE DURING JULY 1980

N.B. The names appearing on the lefthand side are those of people who were still under arrest at the end of the month.

<u>JULY</u>	<u>ARRESTS</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
1		The Vicaría Oeste (Western Vicaría) in Santiago was machine-gunned and an adjoining church building bombed but no major damage was done.
8		Three students and two housewives occupied the French Embassy in Santiago for five hours. They wanted the French authorities to intercede with the Chilean Government on behalf of the students sent into internal exile following the arrests on 12 June in a Santiago restaurant.
9		Publication of the new draft constitution, drawn up by a State commission, which would allow General Pinochet to remain in power for a five-year transitional period leading up to elections.
10		Two members of the State Commission which prepared the new draft constitution issued a minority report calling for the military to remain in power indefinitely.
11	<u>Lía ROJAS</u> <u>Eduardo ALEMANI</u>	Two students, Lía Rojas and Eduardo Alemanni, were kidnapped by a group of 10 unknown people, using 2 cars. Both had been expelled at the beginning of the year from the Technical University for participating in "extra-university activities".
11		General Pinochet announced that a "free, secret and informed plebiscite" would be held on proposals for a new constitution, possibly later this year, but the draft to be approved would not necessarily be the version presented to him on 9 July by the State commission.
15		Lieutenant Colonel Roger Vergara Campos, director of the Army's School of Intelligence, was shot dead in an ambush. As a result, the intelligence services of the armed forces and the police were placed under a single command in order to search for those responsible for the killing. The authorities immediately attributed the attack to "leftwing extremists".
16		More than 300 people were arrested in the search for the killers of Lieutenant Colonel Vergara. Most of them were later released. Two people detained following a shoot-out in La Legua shanty town in Santiago were being questioned about the killing.

<u>JULY</u>	<u>ARRESTS</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
16		The home of ex-trade union leader Clotario Blest was ransacked at 4 a.m. by eleven heavily-armed civilians, who took documents and personal belongings. A <u>recurso de amparo</u> (writ of protection) was presented requesting the authorities to investigate the incident.
16		The Santiago Appeals Court refused bail to José Maldawsky and Jorge Soza, arrested on 20 May, on the grounds that "they constitute a danger to the security of society" (see chronology of events in May for details of this case).
16	<u>José Miguel BENADO MEDVINSKY</u>	20 people, including 5 children, were held under house arrest by armed security forces in Santiago. The house belongs to Samuel Berlagosky Grimberg, who was held together with his wife, Eliana Bronfman Weinstein, and other members of the family. José Miguel Benado Medvinsky and several others, including Claire Wilson Bronfman, were eventually arrested and taken away. (All except Benado were released on 18 July.)
17		General Ernesto Baeza, head of detective investigations, said that those responsible for the killing of Lieutenant Colonel Vergara had still not been identified but that several leads were being followed "although we cannot reveal what they are, nor whether there have been any arrests, in order not to obstruct the investigations".
17	<u>Norman Alejandro ARDOUIN SHAND</u>	A <u>recurso de amparo</u> was presented to the Concepción Appeals Court on behalf of student Norman Alejandro Ardouin Shand, who disappeared on 14 July when leaving a student residence to go to the house of a friend. It is reported that he had previously received threats.
18		University student, Norman Alejandro Ardouin Shand, was sent into internal exile (under decree law 3168) for an unspecified period to Punitaqui in the Fourth Region of Chile "for disturbing public order and the political recess".
18		The government announced that "unidentified persons are distributing leaflets offensive to the Catholic Church" and requested people to help identify them.
18		The Minister of the Interior increased from 5 to 20 days the period during which people arrested for "offences against state security resulting in death, injury or kidnapping" can be held in preventive custody (Decree Law No. 3,451).
18		The government offered Cardinal Raúl Silva Henríquez and other church dignitaries additional protection following anonymous death threats made to them. The Cardinal later said that he was "trusting in his guardian angel" to protect him, and that "no threat will make us change the line we have held until now, that is, the line of man at the service of God." He also condemned the killing of Lieutenant Colonel Vergara and added "We have to kill hatred before hatred poisons and kills the soul of our Chile".

- | <u>JULY</u> | <u>ARRESTS</u> | <u>EVENTS</u> |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| 18 | | By means of a <u>bando</u> (military edict) issued by General Humberto Gordon Rubio, military commander of the Santiago area under the state of emergency, and based on the Law of Internal State Security, it is forbidden to divulge any information concerning "declarations, antecedents, the identity or opinions of witnesses or the authorities" in connection with terrorist actions or incidents that threaten the country's security. However, police sources revealed that three people linked with the killing of Lieutenant Colonel Vergara had been arrested. |
| 19 | | The Minister of the Interior refused a group of ex-parliamentarians permission to hold a public meeting in a Santiago theatre on 28 July on the occasion of the coming to power of the new President of Peru and "to celebrate, in the Americanist way, the return of our continent to democracy". The reason given for the refusal was that "the authorization of the meeting planned by you could be interpreted as an inopportune intervention in the internal affairs of other States, and therefore contravenes the noble "Americanist spirit" with which you say you are inspired." |
| 19 | | The organization "Chile Democrático", based in Rome, published statements by José Maldawsky and Jorge Soza, detained since 20 May (see chronology of events for May), in which the two men state that they were tortured for several days by members of the CNI, during which they were exposed to electric shocks, blows and psychological torture, while under medical supervision. The prosecution has asked for a three-year sentence for both men. |
| 19 | | Five women political prisoners, held in the <u>Centro de Observación Feminina</u> (main women's prison) in Santiago, went on hunger strike demanding that they be separated from the common criminals, in accordance with the agreement made with the United Nations Ad Hoc Group, and that they be allowed to work to support themselves and their families. They are: Inés Angélica Díaz Tapia, Juana Aguilera Jaramillo, Inés Flores Noriel, Mirta Cepeda Salfate, and Ana Luisa Peñailillo Parra. |
| 20 | | It was also reported that relatives of the political prisoners held in Calle 5 of the Santiago Penitentiary (the part reserved for political prisoners) had been prevented from visiting them. Four of the prisoners were kept incommunicado following a search of their cells by hooded men on 18 July and some reports indicate that they may have been removed from the prison. They are: Juan Eduardo Durán Campos, Raúl López Peralta, Carlos Cortés Mazzalín, and Sebastián Baeza. |
| 21 | | A <u>recurso de amparo</u> was presented by Claire Wilson Bronfman on behalf of José Miguel Benado Medvinsky, in which she stated that he was illtreated and taken away to a secret detention centre belonging to the security services. |

<u>JULY</u>	<u>ARRESTS</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
21		The British Government announced that it had decided to lift the embargo on arms sales to Chile, imposed by the Labour government in 1974.
21	<u>Justo Eduardo ARAYA MORENO</u>	A representative of the Oficina Panamericana de Salud (OPS .. Panamerican Health Office) met the Minister of Health, General Alejandro Medina Lois, to discuss the situation of Justo Eduardo Araya Medina, an OPS employee, who was arrested in his home on 17 July by six armed men.
21		Violeta del Carmen Reyes, aged 48, was arrested yesterday and is being held in the <u>Primera Comisaría de Carabineros</u> (First Police Commisariat) in Santiago. She was one of the participants in a pilgrimage to a chapel on San Cristóbal Hill in Santiago on the occasion of the anniversary of the publication of a list of 119 Chileans who are alleged to have died in "confrontations" in Argentina and Brazil in 1976. (She was later released.)
22		The case against Alamiro Guzmán, of the <u>Federación Nacional Minera</u> (National Mining Federation), and Fernando Bobadilla, of the <u>Federación Nacional Textil</u> (National Textile Federation), accused of illegally representing workers, was dropped by the Santiago Appeals Court.
22		The Minister of Foreign Affairs, René Rojas Galdames, said that an investigation was being made into the situation of Justo Eduardo Araya Fuentes (see July 21). He admitted that Araya was in detention but gave no further details.
22		About 50 political prisoners held in Calle 5 of the Santiago Penitentiary joined the five women in the <u>Centro de Orientación Feminina</u> on hunger strike. (See 19 July.)
22		100 homeless families took over land due to be turned into sports fields in La Bandera shanty town in Santiago. Police forced them all to leave and several arrests were made. They were released later the same day. Over 300 people who had participated in the takeover took refuge in a nearby church where Cardinal Raúl Silva Henríquez visited them. The Cardinal said he would do everything possible to find a solution to their problem.
23		Ricardo de la Riva, arrested in April this year, was sentenced to a total of 1,082 days of internal exile in Carahue (Arauco Province) -- 541 days for breaking Article 4(a) of the Law of Internal State Security and 541 days for breaking Article 3 of Decree Law 77 (banning political parties).
23		A <u>recurso de amparo</u> requesting that Ignacio Serrano Moraga, a priest exiled in 1973 for five years, be permitted to return to Chile, given that he has completed the sentence, was rejected by two votes to one in the Santiago Appeals Court.

<u>JULY</u>	<u>ARRESTS</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
23		General Odlanier Mena, head of the <u>Central Nacional de Informaciones</u> (CNI - the Chilean secret police), resigned "for personal reasons". He was replaced by General Humberto Gordon Rubio, previously military commander of the Santiago area under the state of emergency.
23		Juan Jara Cruz (see April 10) presented a <u>recurso de queja</u> (complaint) to the Santiago Appeals Court after his original sentence of 61 days' imprisonment (suspended) was increased to 541 days' imprisonment (suspended) when he appealed against it.
24	<u>Bernardo AMIGO LATORRE</u>	Students at the University of Chile protested at the arrest by civilians of fellow student, Bernardo Amigo Latorre, together with his parents, in his home on 18 July. His whereabouts are unknown. His parents were later released.
24		General Carlos Morales Retamal was appointed as the new military commander of the Santiago area under the state of emergency. He was formerly commander of the Army's Military Institutes.
24		During an interview with the newspaper "El Mercurio", General Odlanier Mena was asked if he thought the <u>Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionaria</u> (MIR - Movement of the Revolutionary Left) was involved in the murder of Lieutenant Colonel Vergara on 15 July. He replied that "the murder and attack on Commander Vergara are outside the scope of the MIR's actions."
24		Two unidentified people were arrested following an alleged armed confrontation in Robert Kennedy shanty town in Santiago.
25		The eighth edition of an anonymous publication called "Versus Comunismo", which bitterly attacks the Catholic Church, has appeared in Santiago.
25		Two hunger strikes were started in northern Santiago by a group of people belonging to the <u>Agrupación de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos</u> (Association of Relatives of the Disappeared Prisoners) in protest at the breaking up of the pilgrimage to San Cristóbal Hill on 21 July (see above).
26		A <u>recurso de amparo</u> presented on behalf of José Miguel Benado Medvinsky, arrested on 16 July (see above), was unanimously rejected by the Santiago Court of Appeal.
26		Navy Commander José Toribio Merino said that Chile would not buy any naval material from Great Britain despite the lifting of the ban on arms sales. He added that the ban had seriously affected the Chilean Navy because most of its equipment was of British origin but that Chile was now able to produce material needed, although at a high cost, and the Chilean Government had informed the British Embassy that it would not turn to Great Britain again for naval equipment.

<u>JULY</u>	<u>ARRESTS</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
26		It was revealed in the Chilean press that the people implicated in a current tax fraud scandal, including an alleged ex-member of the DINA, used the names of "disappeared" prisoners in carrying out the fraud. One of the names used was that of Alvaro Barria Duque, who appeared on the list of 119 "disappeared" drawn up by the Vicaría.
26	<u>Guillermo GEISSE VALENZUELA</u> <u>Jaime PEREZ DE ARCE</u> <u>Hernán ABURTO</u> <u>Ricardo GARCIA CONTRERAS</u> <u>Bernardo REYNALDOS QUINTEROS</u>	The <u>Comisión de Derechos Juveniles</u> (CODEJU - Commission for Youth Rights) issued a statement denouncing the arrest of more than 25 people between 17 and 22 July, and the practice of torture used against prisoners. They stated that the following people were arrested and later released after a few hours/days: Ricardo Galindo, Oriana Valenzuela, Ximena Erazo, Rosa Flores, Alberto Flores, Patricio Sánchez, Benjamín Riffo and his four children, Violeta Reyes, Heidi Dettwilar and Florencia Velasco. According to CODEJU those still detained (as of 26 July) were: José Miguel Benado Medvinsky, Guillermo Geisse Valenzuela, an economist, Bernardo Amigo Latorre, Justo Eduardo Araya Moreno, Jaime Pérez de Arce, economics graduate, Hernán Aburto, ex-engineering student, and photographers Ricardo García Contreras and Bernardo Reynaldos Quinteros. The wives of the four latter stated that "our husbands were arrested by civilians armed with machine-guns, who invaded our homes and searched them in front of our children, who saw how their fathers were kidnapped... they are being held in secret CNI prisons." A <u>recurso de amparo</u> presented on their behalf was rejected. CODEJU also announced the arrest of 20 people in Linares, 300 kilometres south of Santiago. Their names and present whereabouts are unknown.
27	<u>Leonardo SAAVEDRA HOFFMAN</u> <u>Miguel Angel SANCHEZ CONTRERAS</u> <u>Jorge SERVANDO GOMEZ</u>	Five alleged MIR members were arrested in Temuco, 740 kilometres from Santiago, and put at the disposition of the Military Prosecutor (<u>Fiscalía Militar</u>) of Temuco. Four of them are accused of belonging to the political branch of the MIR and the other of possessing arms. They had been arrested on 25 July. The names of three of them are: Leonardo Saavedra Hoffman, student, Miguel Angel Sánchez Contreras, student, and Jorge Servando Gómez, shoemaker.
27/28	<u>Juan Alejandro ROJAS MARTINEZ</u>	Approximately 40 members of the security forces surrounded the Vicaría Sur (Southern Vicaría) in Santiago and cut off telephone communications for 10 hours. The operation resulted in the arrest of Juan Alejandro Rojas Martínez, who the security forces allege was hiding in the building. He is accused of belonging to the MIR and of having been involved in the takeover of land in La Bandera on 22 July, as well as being an important link in the search for the murderers of Lieutenant Colonel Vergara on 15 July.
27		20 people have been on hunger strike for three days in the Church of La Recoleta Franciscana in Santiago in support of the political prisoners who are also on hunger strike in the Santiago Penitentiary and the <u>Centro de Orientación Feminina</u> .

<u>JULY</u>	<u>ARRESTS</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
27	<u>Remis RAMOS BELMAR</u>	20 students travelling to 'Isla Negra' (Black Island), 110 kilometres from Santiago on the coast, to pay homage to poet Pablo Neruda were arrested by uniformed police. Others had been arrested earlier by men in plain clothes. One of those arrested by civilians and whose whereabouts is unknown is Remis Ramos Belmar, a 24-year-old student of biology.
28	<u>Luis BARRERA ARANCIBIA</u>	More than 80 suspects were arrested following three bank raids in Santiago, in which one person was killed and 16 injured. The CNI announced that five alleged "extremists" were wounded, one of them seriously, and that eight people were arrested "whose connection and involvement in the incidents is under investigation". Three people were later arrested after a confrontation behind San Cayetano Church in southern Santiago. Juan Alejandro Rojas Martínez, who was arrested earlier that day following the search of the Vicaría Sur, was also said by the CNI "to be directly linked with the carrying out of the bank raids". One of those wounded and under arrest in the Hospital Barros Luco is Luis Barrera Arancibia, an engineering graduate.
30		The <u>Comisión Chilena de Derechos Humanos</u> (Chilean Human Rights Commission) and the <u>Asociación de Abogados pro Derechos Humanos</u> (Association of Lawyers for Human Rights) gave a joint press conference denouncing the use of torture in the country. They reported a testimony by British citizen Claire Wilson Bronfman on the treatment received by José Miguel Benado Medvinsky, with whom she was arrested on 17 July. The testimony gave details of the unlawful treatment and type of tortures Benado received and his resulting condition. It specifically mentioned the use of dogs and electricity as tools of physical and psychological persuasion to force detainees to confess to having links with extremists. Claire Wilson said that at one point a woman came running out of the room where Benado was being tortured saying that he was dying and soon after that he was taken away to hospital on a stretcher. Wilson also stated that the CNI tried to force her to deny her British nationality, and that while she was being held she heard the voices of several other people who were also being forcibly interrogated. The Commission and the Lawyers Association added that those types of practices "were becoming habitual in arrests carried out by the CNI" and that "the courts do not act in accordance with the law... arrests and unlawful treatment are not investigated and writs of habeas corpus and protection are rejected."
30	<u>Orlando ZURITA</u> <u>VALENZUELA</u> <u>Sergio MARTINEZ</u>	The names of two of the other people arrested in Temuco (see 27 July) are: Orlando Zurita Valenzuela, artisan, and Sergio Martínez, typesetter. Another man and a woman are also being detained. All are being held incommunicado and <u>recursos de amparo</u> presented on their behalf have been rejected.

JULY ARRESTS

EVENTS

30

Students from the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts of the University of Chile issued a public statement protesting at the arrest and disappearance of three fellow students: Marcos Pifia Guzmán, architecture student, and Alejandro Correa Guzmán and Marlina Schultz, both expelled earlier this year from the Technical University. They were arrested in a metro station in Santiago after they had been to see the Italian chargé d'affaires. They had all previously been arrested, with 95 others, on 12 June in a Santiago restaurant (see chronology for June). The statement also denounced the arrest of Norma Orellana on 25 July by 14 civilians, as well as the arrests of Bernardo Amigo Latorre and Remis Ramos Belmar (already referred to earlier).

Norma ORELLANA

30

Lawyer Pablo Rodríguez Grez, founder of the now dissolved Nationalist Party Patria y Libertad (Fatherland and Freedom) gave a press conference in which he accused the Chilean Catholic Church of being "infiltrated by marxists" and of openly supporting "terrorism". The statement was in response to a protest by the Cardinal of Chile the day before, following the search of several churches and the arrest of one person in the Vicaría Sur (Juan Alejandro Rojas Martínez).

30

Radio Chilena, a radio station belonging to the Catholic Church denounced the kidnapping of its press officer, Guillermo Hormazábal Salgado, by six unknown civilians in the centre of Santiago.

30

The three students arrested in a Santiago metro station earlier in the week were reported to have been released.

30

Two of the "extremists" arrested following the bank raids on 28 July were reported to be in a serious condition in Hospital Barros Luco. Santiago Rubilar Salazar has eight bullet wounds and is in intensive care. The other man is Eduardo Andrés Arancibia Ortiz, aged 23, also suffering from several bullet wounds. Also under arrest and in the hospital is the brother of Santiago Rubilar, Juan Rubilar Salazar, aged 32, engineer at ENDESA, an electricity company. More than 500 arrests are reported to have been made in several shanty towns in Santiago as a result of the search for the participants in the bank raids; among those arrested, seven men and one woman are said to be directly linked with the raids.

Santiago RUBILAR
SALAZAR
Eduardo Andrés
ARANCIBIA ORTIZ
Juan RUBILAR
SALAZAR

31

The government requested the courts to appoint an investigating minister to look into the kidnapping of Guillermo Hormazábal, press officer of Radio Chilena, and Mario Romero Estrada, press officer of Radio "Presidente Ibañez" in Punta Arenas. Both were released today, after being held for 12 hours. In a press conference, Guillermo Hormazábal said that the kidnapers called themselves the "Commando for the Vengeance of Martyrs" (Comando Vengadores de Mártires) and stated that "We are doing this for Chile, since the uniformed police (carabineros) and plainclothes police (Investigaciones) are inefficient". Hormazábal said that he was treated with

JULY ARRESTS

EVENTS

30 (cont.)

deference but Romero claimed that he was beaten and threatened with death. He later stated that he thought that he had been arrested in connection with enquiries being made about his younger brother, medical student Néstor Gonzalo Romero Estrada, who had been kidnapped by the same people on 26 July. Both he, his brother and Hormazábal were eventually released in different parts of Santiago, blindfolded and with their hands tied.

31

A bomb exploded outside the Vicaría Sur in Santiago in the early hours of the morning. It caused minor damage to the building but nobody was hurt.

31

A recurso de amparo presented on behalf of José Miguel Benado Medvinsky was again unanimously rejected by the Santiago Appeals Court. A French lawyer, who went to Chile at the request of Benado's family who live in France, was told by the President of the Supreme Court that Benado was being held at the disposition of the Ministry of the Interior and had not been put at the disposition of the courts. The government announced that Benado is being held in connection with several bank raids and for having secretly returned to the country from exile under an assumed name.

31

Eduardo Andrés Arancibia Ortíz, at first reported to be held in the Hospital Barros Luco (see above), is now reported to be in the 12th Police Commisariat in San Miguel, Santiago. He is a computer programmer, aged 23.

31

Four of those arrested in Temuco (see 27 July) have been declared prisoners and charged under the Law of Arms Control. Three other people are also in detention but have not yet been put at the disposition of the Military Prosecutor.

31

The newspaper "El Mercurio" reported that Santiago Rubilar is the only person being held in the Hospital Barros Luco, who is being detained specifically in connection with the bank raids on the 28th. His wife and brother were arrested later, as well as a friend of his, Carlos Salazar Fonseca. It was also reported that an as yet unidentified person who was wounded during the operations that took place in southern Santiago following the raids was found to be dead on arrival at the Hospital Barros Luco.

31

A recurso de amparo requesting that Jorge Hills Cox Méndez, ex-leader of Unidad Popular (Popular Unity) in Valparaíso, be allowed to return to the country was rejected by the Supreme Court for reasons of state security.

