

SITUATION: CHILE
SUBJECT CATEGORY: COUP

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:
FLASH

Z 111654Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 5484

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ SANTIAGO 4106

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI

SUBJECT: NOON WRAPUP

1. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE MONEDA, THE PRESIDENT IS HOME, AND PRESUMABLY MANY FACTORIES, CHILE IN THE HANDS OF THE MILITARY JUNTA. AT LEAST, WE DO NOT PRESENTLY HAVE ANY INDICATION OF FIGHTING ON ANY SCALE OUTSIDE THE CENTER OF SANTIAGO. WE DO NOT SEE ANY SIGN A

S
YET OF THE WORKERS POURING INTO THE STREETS OF THE CENTER CITY TO DEFEND ALLENDE. OF COURSE, THE JUNTA CONTROLS THE MEDIA - SO THERE MAY WELL BE DEVELOPMENTS OF WHICH WE ARE UNAWARE.

2. THE AERIAL BOMBARDMENT OF THE MONEDA HAS LEFT THE PALACE PARTIALLY DESTROYED AND IN FLAMES. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SHOOTING

AND FIRE FROM BUILDINGS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA - AND OUR OFFICES HAVE RECEIVED A FEW STRAY BULLETS. WE STILL HAVE NO REPORTS OF ANY AMERICANS INJURED.

3. THE NEXT FOCUS OF ACTION WILL BE WITHIN THE MONEDA, AS TROOPS PENETRATE TO OVERCOME SUCH RESISTANCE AS THERE IS AND TAKE THE PRESIDENT. WHETHER HE WILL REMAIN FIRMLY IN HIS RESOLVE NOT TO LEAVE THE MONEDA ALIVE REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

4. THE JUNTA'S POSTURE TOWARD THE POPULATION IS NOTABLY TOUGH - WITH A STATE OF SEIGE (PROCLAIMED WITHOUT BENEFIT OF CONGRESS, WHICH LEGALLY HAS THAT POWER), A 21 P.M. CURFEW, AND THE APPLICATION OF MILITARY JUSTICE AGAINST ANYONE FOUND WITH ARMS OR ACTIVE AGAINST THE JUNTA.

DAVIS

BT

***** UNR COMMENTS *****

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