UNCLASSIFIED EXCISE

RA40

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B1

File Chile

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
( ) Classify as (✓) Extend as (5) Downgrade to ___
Date 1/31/01 Declassify on _____ Reason 25X1

Chile Project (#S199900030)
U.S. Department of State
Release _____ Excise X Deny _____
Declassify: In Part X In Full _____
Exemption(s) B1

4 March 1969

SUBJECT: The Chilean Congressional Election of 2 March 1969

1. According to initial reports, the congressional election operation in Chile has been successfully executed. The operation had been designed to (a) support individual, moderate candidates of the three non-Marxist political parties, (b) fund a dissident Socialist party to split the left, and (c) carry out propaganda activities against the Marxist left.

2. Ten of the twelve candidates selected for support by the field election team composed of Embassy and Station personnel were elected: [redacted] The most significant single victory was that of [redacted] The dissident Socialist party (USP) elected no candidates of its own, but did poll more than 50,000 votes and thus deprived the regular Socialist Party (PS) of about seven congressional seats. Difficult as it is to judge the effect of propaganda activities on any election, it can be said that in this instance the exploitation of the Communist Party support of the Czechoslovakian invasion cost that party votes in Santiago.

3. A report to the 303 Committee on the election operation will be made as soon as we have the final field evaluation.

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