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Chile: Army Commander Zincke Requests Pinochet To Stay On As Commander-in-chief After Elections

by John Neagle

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On June 7, during celebrations for the "Day of the Infantry," second in command of the Chilean army, Jorge Zincke, requested that President Augusto Pinochet stay on as army commander-in-chief after the presidential elections. The ceremony took place in Arica, located near the country's border with Peru. According to Zincke, in 1973 the armed forces were faced with "destruction" of the country and serious threats to Chilean national sovereignty. Since then, he said, Chile has become "one of the most prosperous nations of Latin America." On June 6, Zincke declared that if Chile relived the "situations" encountered in 1973, the army would once again undertake political intervention. (Basic data from Notimex, 06/07/89)

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