Chile Project (#8199900030)
U.S. Department of State
Release ______ Excise ______ Deny ______
Declassify: In Part ______ In Full ______
Exemption(s) ______

Dept of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Griffield, Dir.
( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to ______
Date ______ Declassify on ______ Reason ______

1. WHILE I APPRECIATE IMPORTANCE OF OBJECTIVE SOUGHT IN
   MESSAGE, I SERIOUSLY DOUBT THAT AN APPROACH TO PRESIDENT
   PINOCHET IS THE BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE IT.

2. IN MY JUDGMENT, GIVEN PINOCHET'S SENSITIVITY REGARDING
   PRESSURES BY USG. HE MIGHT WELL TAKE AS A INSULT ANY
   INFERENCES ABOUT ASSASSINATION
   PLOTS. FURTHERMORE, THE SOUTHERN CONE NATIONAL
   INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES IS HANDLED BY THE DIRECTORATE OF
   NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE (DINA), APPARENTLY WITHOUT MUCH
   REFERENCE TO ANY ONE ELSE. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE, EVEN
   PROBABLE, THAT PINOCHET HAS NO KNOWLEDGE WHATEVER OF
   OPERATION CONDOR, PARTICULARLY OF ITS MORE QUESTIONABLE
   ASPECTS.

3. PURPOSE OF INSTRUCTION WILL BE BEST ACHIEVED IF HE CONVEYS
   THE MESSAGE TO HE CAN DO IT IN THE CONTEXT OF HAVING HEARD A RUMOR WHICH
   HE CANNOT RELIEF, BUT WHICH IF SUBSTANTIATED WOULD BE DISASTROUS
FOR THE PERPETRATORS, I BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF GETTING THE MESSAGE ACROSS WITHOUT UNDESIRABLE COMPLICATIONS.

4. I NOTE THAT THE INSTRUCTION IS CAST IN URGENT TERMS. HAS DEPARTMENT RECEIVED ANY WORD THAT WOULD INDICATE THAT ASSASSINATION ACTIVITIES ARE IMMINENT? THE ONLY SUCH INFO WE HAVE SEEN IS ONE REPORT FROM [REDACTED] UNCONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES.

5. PLEASE ADVISE.

POPPO