SECRET NOFORNAMNINTELINOCONTRACT

'Violations of Human Rights

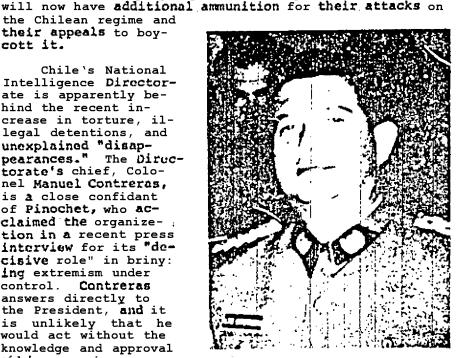
Reports of gross violations of human rights in Chile, which had nearly ceased earlier this year, are again on the rise.

the Pinochet government is reverting to the practices that have jeopardized its international standing since the 1973 coup.

This backsliding comes at a particularly bad time for Chile, since apparent improvement in the human right situation was helping improve its image abroadd. Critics

the Chilean regime and their appeals to boy-cott it.

Chile's National Intelligence Directorate is apparently behind the recent increase in torture, illegal detentions, and unexplained "disap-pearances." The Directorate's chief, Colonel Manuel Contreras, is a close confidant of Pinochet, who acclaimed the organize- ; tion in a recent press interview for its "decisive role" in briny: ing extremism under control. Contreras answers directly to the President, and it is unlikely that he would act without the knowledge and approval of his superior.



Colonel Manuel Contreres

24 May 1977

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