

Chile Junta Bans Leftist Parties

From News Dispatches

SANTIAGO, Sept. 21—The four-man military junta ruling Chile today outlawed the country's Marxist political parties and declared the non-Marxist parties "in recess to let the country catch its breath politically."

The action ended a long tradition of political freedom in Chile. The Communist Party, founded in 1921, was the second largest in the country. The Socialist Party was founded in 1933 by President Salvador Allende, who died in last week's coup.

Gen. Augusto Pinochet, head of the junta, said at a news conference that the two major Marxist parties and several smaller ones that also participated in Allende's Popular Unity coalition were "the principal causes of the chaos and downfall of the nation."

[In Moscow, the Soviet Union suspended diplomatic relations with Chile and ordered Chilean diplomats to close their embassy in Moscow and return home. The decision came as a surprise to diplomatic observers, since the Soviet Union has worked hard to

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open up relations with Latin American governments of various political orientations.]

At the news conference, Pinochet said that democratic, civilian government would be restored "as soon as the country...forgets the chaos it was living in."

Asked how long this would take, he answered: "When a sick person has to have an arm amputated, it is very difficult to say how long he will take to recuperate."

Gen. Gustavo Leigh, the air force commander and a member of the junta, said its members discussed at a meeting today a possible new constitution for Chile. The junta dissolved Congress following the coup.

The new constitution would create a new parliament made up of representatives of social and professional groups as well as the armed forces, Gen. Leigh said.

The Chilean armed forces have traditionally been prohibited by law from participating in politics, and, for many years soldiers and policemen could not even vote. Several years ago, officers, but not enlisted men, were granted the right to vote, but they were still expected to refrain from any other political activity.

Gen. Leigh said the proposed new constitution was being drafted by a group of jurists of varying political tendencies, and would be submitted to the voters in a referendum.

Gen. Pinochet also gave an interview to his nephew, a Bolivian journalist, in which he said that 223 persons died and 412 were wounded during the coup and its aftermath. He said that 5,000 persons were imprisoned. Other reports from Santiago have estimated that thousands of persons were killed.

Pinochet also told the Bolivian journalist that Nobel Prize-winning poet, Pablo Neruda, was "in delicate health" and resting at his home on the Pacific coast. A Mexican newspaper had reported that Neruda, a Communist and friend of Allende's, was under house arrest.

At the news conference, Pinochet denied charges by supporters of the Allende government that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency had supported the coup.

"This is a national and Chilean movement and has no resemblance to any other which has occurred in other countries," he added. "I think not even my wife knew what was going to happen. There are very few of us who organized it."

Commercial flights were authorized to resume, but none had arrived or taken off by

late this afternoon. The military authorities were carefully scrutinizing all travelers trying to leave the country.

A junta decree said that many extremists, particularly foreigners, had forged passports and were attempting to slip out of the country. The junta has repeatedly accused the 10,000 to 15,000 political exiles who sought refuge in Chile during the Allende government of "subversive" activity.

A representative of the U.N. High Commission on Refugees arrived here and said he would meet with representatives of the junta to discuss safeguarding the exiles' rights.

Many members of the Allende government were reported to have sought refuge in the embassies of various Latin American countries. The Foreign Ministry said that all would be granted safe conduct out of the country except those to be put on trial for misconduct.

The U.S. embassy said that Adam and Patricia Garrett-Schesch, both graduate students from the University of Wisconsin, were released today from the national stadium where they had been held since the coup with about 4,000 other prisoners. The embassy said the couple planned to leave the country "as soon as possible."

The embassy said it hoped

that two men connected with the Maryknoll order, Joseph Dougherty and Francis Flynn, would be released soon. The two men had been teaching school in a poor neighborhood in Santiago.

The embassy also said that two Americans, John Ceretti and Henry Warlow, both 22, were also released. Their occupations and home towns were not known.

The junta made a new attempt to counter charges from abroad that Allende did not commit suicide as the military authorities had reported.

A detailed description of the assault on the presidential palace was given to newsmen by the leader of the attack, Gen. Ernesto Baeza.

Baeza said Allende rejected repeated requests that he surrender and board a special plane for a flight into exile.

The general said that when the rebels entered the palace, "Allende was at the end of a large column. At his side was his doctor, Arturo Giron. The others in front were running. . . Allende, wearing a helmet and carrying a submachine gun, slipped into a presidential salon.

"He sat down on a felt sofa, took a gift submachine gun from Fidel Castro in his hands and discharged two shots in his lower chin. This caused the cranium of the ex-president to explode."