

Junta's Role

Marxist Parties Banned in Chile

Santiago

The new junta announced here yesterday that it has banned Marxist political parties and would soon announce a new Chilean constitution, giving the armed forces a role in future legislative bodies.

"We have placed the Marxist parties outside the law," General Augusto Pinochet, the president of the junta said in a news conference. "They are the principal culprits for what has happened — because their behavior, their lack of morals and ethics, the fraud they perpetrated on the people were bringing about chaos and the downfall of the nation."

In the ten days since the coup d'etat that toppled the three year old Marxist coalition government of Dr. Salvador Allende, a harsh anti-leftist campaign by the military has sent about 6000 Marxists into detention camps and thousands more into hiding.

An undetermined number have been killed, although government spokesmen insist that fewer than 100 people died in the heavy fighting that occurred in the first few days of the coup.

EXECUTIONS

The government also disclosed yesterday that two alleged extremists were executed in Antofagasta, about 800 miles north of Santiago, after being found guilty by a military tribunal of planning terrorist attacks against officers. Three people also were executed last week, according to government disclosures.

The junta has shown increasing signs that it expects a lengthy tenure in office, and envisages a permanent role for the armed forces in government.

Congress has been suspended indefinitely since the day of the coup, and yesterday a government spokesman said that even non-Marxist political parties would soon be placed in "indefinite recess."

"The main function of the parties is in congress anyway," said the official. "There will be no need for political reunions or party gatherings — and demonstrations are already forbidden."

CONSTITUTION

In another news conference, General Gustavo Leigh, also a member of the junta, disclosed that a new constitution would soon be put into effect.

According to Leigh, the armed forces want the new

constitution to broaden their role in the country and to assure them "representation in legislative bodies."

Leigh, the air force commander in chief, mentioned unions and youth groups among the groups whose advice would be sought on the constitution, but pointedly omitted mention of political parties.

The general, who appears to have the strongest personality among the four junta officers, also ruled out a plebiscite on the constitution, thus making it likely that it would be promulgated by decree.

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