

Chilean Demochristians Hit Junta's Plan for Constitution

From News Dispatches

SANTIAGO, Sept. 22—The new Chilean military junta received its first political setback today when the powerful Christian Democratic Party severely criticized its proposals for a new constitution.

The party, the largest in Chile, has opposed the Socialist-led government of President Salvador Allende, who died in last week's coup. At first, the Christian Democrats supported the military takeover, but today party leader Patricio Aylwin told a news conference:

"The Christian Democrats do not accept directives concerning changes in the constitutional Chilean regime that do not come from the people. 'Nobody, and certainly not by force of arms, can impose a constitutional regime.'"

Aylwin also warned that his party was "categorically and clearly against" any attempt to use the military government "to turn back history and establish the model of a permanent reactionary dictatorship."

The party leader, who belongs to a moderate faction of the Christian Democrats, also criticized the junta's decision to outlaw Marxist political parties.

"We do not believe that political parties can be suppressed by decree, nor do we believe that ideas can be suppressed by governmental decisions," he said.

The junta also ordered the non-Marxist parties to suspend their activities, but Aylwin was not prevented from holding the news conference.

The junta's forces continued

to search the country for supporters of Allende who might offer resistance to the new government. A man was killed while resisting a raid on his home.

Military authorities announced that two men were executed by a firing squad for manufacturing 2,000 bombs in a plot to assassinate military officers. They said the pair was sentenced by a military court in Antofagasta, 600 miles north of here.

Heavy machine gun fire was heard during the early morning hours in Santiago, and Interior Minister Gen. Oscar Bonilla said a strict curfew would remain in force from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Air force commander, Gen. Gustavo Leigh, a member of the junta, said that about 7,000 persons were being held at the national soccer stadium in Santiago. About 30 persons he identified as "the VIPS" were being held in a small navy base on Dawson Island in the Strait of Magellan, he said.

Asked about conditions on the island, Leigh replied, "It is not for tourists. But they are being cared for at a navy base with medical and social attendance." He added that the island "is without permissiveness. Messages can't be sent back and forth as they could in Santiago."

Other sources said that at least nine of Allende's Cabinet ministers are held on the island.

The junta announced that it had authorized priests to act as intermediaries for people who wished to hand over weapons to the armed forces. Raul Cardinal Silva Henriquez

had told the junta's interior minister that many priests had been approached by people who wished to surrender arms, but feared they would be arrested.

A UPI correspondent who visited the stadium where prisoners are being held said that there were lines of people at the ticket booths seeking information about friends and relatives who disappeared during the coup.

Some were helped away in tears after learning that the person they sought was not on the list of those being held in the stadium, since anyone not there is presumed to have been killed in the fighting during and after the coup.

[Newspapers in Stockholm quoted two Swedish forestry experts who were held in the stadium for 11 days as saying that prisoners there were tortured and executed.]

Relief flights carrying food and medicine from neighboring countries began arriving today, and some international commercial flights were resumed.

The junta announced that farm workers who received land under Allende's Agrarian reform program would receive deeds to it. The government also allowed 14 magazines that had been closed to resume publication, but announced a crackdown on "pornographic publications."

East Germany, Bulgaria and North Korea broke off relations with the Chilean regime, following the lead of the Soviet Union. Britain announced that it would resume relations, as have many West European and Latin American countries.