

# A CRITIC OF JUNTA HONORED IN CHILE

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Thousands Attend Emotional  
Mass for Cardinal  
NYTimes

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SANTIAGO, Chile, June 5—  
Several thousand Catholics  
crowded into the city cathed-  
ral last night to attend an  
emotional mass honoring Raúl  
Cardinal Silva Henríquez, who  
has come under increasing at-  
tack from right-wing followers  
of the military junta.

As the Cardinal strode down  
the cathedral's long nave, the  
parishioners, many perched on  
columns and behind statues to  
get a better view, broke into  
applause.

Neither priests nor laymen  
at the ceremony could recall a  
similar ovation in the 19th-cen-  
tury church that has been a  
focal spot for the faithful in  
times of political crisis and  
natural disaster.

The Cardinal acknowledged  
the attacks against him, but, in  
a voice at times filled with emo-  
tion, asked his critics to accept  
his role as prelate of "the con-  
tented" as well as those "who  
feel wretched." He called again

for reconciliation within the  
country, which remains bitter-  
ly torn between the anti-Marx-  
ist majority and the Marxist  
minority nine months after a  
military coup overthrew Presi-  
dent Salvador Allende Gossens.

The audience today, mostly  
poor and lower-middle-class  
people, included relatives of po-  
litical prisoners and many sym-  
pathizers of the Allende Gov-  
ernment who have come to look  
on the Cardinal and an impor-  
tant segment of the Catholic  
Church as their protectors.

## Larger Role for Church

When the mass ended and  
the crowd poured into the  
plaza, policemen who stood  
guard with machine guns ar-  
rested at least two young wo-  
men who shouted, "Long live  
the Cardinal!"

With the dissolution of Con-  
gress, political parties and la-  
bor unions, the church has  
gradually become the main ve-  
hicle of dissent for critics of  
the junta's harsh measures.

The church has played an  
ever larger role in human  
rights by becoming the most  
important spokesman for the  
6,000 people still being held as  
political prisoners and for peo-  
ple who have lost their jobs  
since the September coup.

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