

# EX-SECURITY CHIEF QUITS CHILEAN ARMY

## General Headed the Secret Police at the Time Opposition Figure Was Murdered in the U.S.

By JUAN de ONIS

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SANTIAGO, Chile, March 21—The army high command announced today the resignation of Gen. Manuel Contreras Sepúlvera, who was the head of Chile's secret police when Orlando Letelier, an exiled opposition leader, was assassinated in Washington.

The announcement said that the resignation of General Contreras, one of President Augusto Pinochet's closest advisers, was "voluntary," but there was speculation that it was linked to investigations here and in the United States into the Letelier case. The investigations have centered on two suspected agents of the secret police agency known formerly as the National Intelligence Directorate, or Dina.

General Contreras was replaced as head of Dina last October after the agency's name was changed to the Central Information Agency. He had been serving until today as commander of the engineering command of the army.

Eugene Propper, an assistant United States attorney, submitted to Chilean officials yesterday evidence gathered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation identifying two suspects as bearers of official Chilean passports who entered the United States under false names.

### 2 Wanted for Questioning

The suspects, identified as Armando Fernández Larios, an army captain, and Michael Vernon Townley, an American who has lived in Chile since 1957, are wanted for questioning by a Chilean judge at the request of Mr. Propper, who arrived here Sunday.

The two are believed to have gone to the United States on Aug. 22, 1976, about three weeks before the murder of Mr. Letelier, who had been Ambassador in the United States for President Salvador Allende Gossens and later served as Foreign Minister.

The left-wing Popular Unity Government of Mr. Allende was overthrown by the military in September 1973. Four months later, President Pinochet, commander of the army and leader of the military movement, created the secret police agency under the then Colonel Contreras.

### Chilean Investigator Quits

SANTIAGO, Chile, March 21 (Reuters)—A special investigator appointed by the Chilean authorities to handle inquiries into the murder in Washington of Orlando Letelier resigned tonight, saying he had no jurisdiction over the armed forces.

Marcos Libedinsky, an Appeals Court judge, told reporters he had handed over the results of his investigations to the military authorities and declared himself incompetent to continue in the case.