

Chile Clears 3 in Letelier Killing

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Reuter

SANTIAGO, Chile, Sept. 18—A Chilean military court has cleared three ex-intelligence officers of all charges connected with the 1976 murder in Washington of former foreign minister Orlando Letelier.

The ruling said that the court had no jurisdiction over murder charges made before a U.S. court.

Ex-political police chief Gen. Manuel Contreras, Col. Pedro Espi-

noza Bravo and Capt. Armando Fernandez Larios are wanted in the United States, but the Chilean Supreme Court rejected extradition requests two years ago on grounds that there was insufficient evidence.

The charges stemmed from testimony by U.S. citizen Michael Townley, who confessed to having taken part in the murder. He said he had acted on orders from the Chilean political police.