Chilean priests assail measures

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — The archbishop of Santiago assailed Chile's state of siege and denounced government criticism of the church Sunday in a letter that priests read to hundreds of thousands of parishoners despite official attempts to censor it in the news media.

Monsignor Juan Francisco Fresno warned that the state of siege measures put the church at odds with President Augusto Pinochet and some other political leaders who are Roman Catholic, but he stopped short of directly threatening excommunication.

"As a pastor, I am witness to the confusion, fear and anguish that these measures have produced," Fresno said in the letter. "I fear that the state of siege signifies a reversal for understanding among Chileans and for the peace of the country."

The archbishop made the letter public on Wednesday in response to the most strident criticism of the church in the 11 years of Pinochet's military regime.

The government instructed Chilean news media to ignore the letter, the conservative archbishop's most biting commentary on the government in his 18 months as the leading church figure in this predominantly Catholic country

Only Radio Chilena, the church-owned station, broadcast Fresno's Sunday reading, but printed copies circulated widely in Catholic schools late last week.

Fresno urged Pinochet, who on Nov. 6 decreed the state of siege to combat political unrest and violence, to take "effective steps" toward democracy.

Bakoush's trick stops Khadafy

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — A former Libyan prime minister, who Egypt says played dead for

phony photographs to trick a Libyan-paid assassination team, vowed Sunday to keep up his public opposition to Col. Moammar Khadafy.

"We will continue our struggle to get rid of this abnormal ruler," exile Abdel-Hamid Bakoush told the Associated Press the day after Egyptian authorities revealed the elaborate ruse that led to the arrest of four men.

Interior Minister Ahmed Rushdi said Khadafy's government hired the four, two Britons and two Maltese, for \$250,000 to arrange the killing of Bakoush, who has lived in Cairo since 1977. Rushdi said the death squad was recruited through the Libyan Embassy in Malta and was given \$150,000 to hire Egyptians to carry out the actual killing.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said on Saturday that he learned of the assassination plot, along with Libyan plans to kill a number of world leaders, during a trip to West Germany last month and he warned the other countries.

In a dispatch on Sunday, Libya's official JANA news agency quoted Libya's No. 2 leader, Staff Maj. Abdelsalam Jalloud, as saying Egypt would not be able to protect Bakoush "even if Hosni Mubarak put all the Egyptian army" to that purpose.

Rushdi said the four men arrested told authorities that Khadafy had plans to assassinate heads of state in West Germany, France, India, Pakistan, Britain, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.

Mubarak told reporters Sunday the four also told investigators that Libya played a role in assassinating Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Oct. 31.

When reporters pressed Mubarak for details, he replied, "Financing some of the organizations to commit all these crimes."

Rushdi identified those arrested as Anthony William Gill, 48, and Godfrey Chiner, 47, both of London, and Romeo Nicholas Chakambari, 42, and

Edgar Bonic Cacia, both of Malta. Rushdi said they would be tried, but did not say on what charges.

He said the men ended up hiring undercover agents to act as their killers, and the agents staged photographs of Bakoush bound, gagged, blood-spattered and finally lying supposedly dead in a pool of blood.

The state-run Egyptian television showed Gill and the two Maltese in its evening newscast. Gill said he began cooperating with the Libyans last July, met the Maltese in October and arrived in Cairo two weeks ago.

JANA and state-run Radio Tripoli on Friday trumpeted the news that one of Khadafy's "suicide squads" had "executed" Bakoush last Monday.

JANA carried Sunday a Foreign Ministry denial of Mubarak's allegations that Libya was behind an international terrorist plot, calling them "barren, untruthful announcements of Hosni Mubarak."

Bakoush, King Idris' last prime minister before Khadafy overthrew the monarchy in 1969, mocked Khadafy in a Cairo meeting Sunday with reporters.

"He has proved by this action that he is irresponsible...and has resorted to an open crime to which he has confessed," Bakoush said.

Visa denials stir debate on rights

WASHINGTON (AP) — State Department decisions to deny visas to a group of Salvadoran women and grant one to an Italian playwright have renewed debate over a 1950s law enacted over the veto of then-President Harry Truman.

The Ronald Reagan administration Saturday rejected visa requests from four of five Salvadoran women on grounds that they were involved in terrorist activities against the government of El Salvador. The women, recipients of the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award, were to attend a

ceremony here Nov. 20.

That action came less than three weeks after the administration, reversing an earlier policy, agreed to let Dario Fo visit New York where his play, "Accidental Death of an Anarchist" premiered on Broadway.

Both cases were considered under the 1952 Immigration and Nationality Act, which the State Department says is vital to national security and serves to protect the United States' interest.

The law is "not unduly restrictive, but represents a reasonable and sensible response to real dangers in the real world," said State Department spokesman Richard Weeks.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., and several civil libertarians disagree. They say the law in its current form is too broad, infringes on the rights of the American public, and permits the government to exclude aliens because of their political beliefs

Frank will introduce a bill in Congress in January to rewrite the law. A House subcommittee held hearings on Frank's measure last June, but no action was taken.

"Americans should have the right to listen to whomever they want... Besides, these policies are damaging to us internationally," Frank said.

People's actions — not their ideas — should be the grounds for rejecting visas, he said.

At the State Department, Weeks said, "We strongly believe they (two key sections) would be retained in their current form."

Over the years, the law has been used to bar from the United States politicians, writers and others deemed to present a threat to America.

Among those who have been kept out of the United States in the past several years are Hortensia Allende, widow of former Chilean president Salvador Allende; Irish activist Bernadette Devlin McAliskey; Jagjit Singh Chauhan, leader of a movement for an independent homeland for the Sikhs; Nobel

Prize-winning author Gabriel Garcia Marquez, and writer Carlos Fuentes.

Rightist Roberto d'Aubuisson of El Salvador was refused a visa during the Jimmy Carter administration but was granted permission to come by the Reagan administration.

There are two key sections of the law.

One prevents the entry of aliens who seek to engage in activities that would be "prejudicial to the public interest" or subversive to the national security.

The other bars those who are

— or were — anarchists, communists or affiliated with any
organization advocating communist doctrine.

But, under a 1976 amendment to the act, if membership in a communist party is the only grounds for denial, it is automatically waived. Weeks said. The person denied a visa must present a security risk.

Youth 'meows,' receives fine

YORK, England (AP) — A \$125 fine levied against a teenager who meowed at a police dog has drawn growls from a British lawmaker.

"The next thing you know, somebody will be arrested for saying boo to a goose," Tom Torney, a member of Parliament, declared Saturday.

Torney said he would write the head of the British judiciary, Lord Hailsham, to protest the sentence handed down to Larry O'Dowd, 18, on Friday.

O'Dowd was found guilty of using abusive language and behavior likely to breach the peace.

Sgt. Fred Taylor, the arresting officer, testified that he had ordered O'Dowd and several friends to disperse after they congregated on a York street-corner and became unruly.

O'Dowd then turned and said "meow" to the officer's German shepherd, Taylor said. The officer testified that he found the language provocative, and a scuffle ensued.

Defense attorney Trevor Cox argued that the word "meow" is not "abusive, threatening or insulting — particularly if the word was directed at a dog." But the court ruled otherwise.

Said O'Dowd: "I just can't believe it."

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