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Objet: Chile: Secrets of State
Date: 11 septembre 2017 18:58
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Chile: Secrets of State

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Special Exhibit of Declassified Documents, Curated by The National Security Archive, Opens in Santiago Museum of Memory and Human Rights

National Security Archive Electronic Briefing Book No. 603

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Washington D.C. - September 11, 2017 - Forty-four years after the U.S. supported military coup, the Santiago Museum of Memory and Human Rights has inaugurated a special exhibit of declassified CIA, FBI, Defense Department and White House records on the U.S. role in Chile and the Pinochet dictatorship. [The unusual exhibit](#), which officially opened to the public on September 5, is titled *Secretos de Estado: La Historia Desclasificada de la Dictadura Chilena—Secrets of State: the Declassified History of the Chilean Dictatorship*.

Curated by National Security Archive senior analyst Peter Kornbluh, the exhibit consists of 45 formerly classified documents dated between 1970 when Richard Nixon ordered to the CIA to instigate a coup in Chile, and October 1988 when General Augusto Pinochet sought to orchestrate a second coup after losing a plebiscite to stay in power.

"These documents belong in a museum," noted Kornbluh who directs the Chile Documentation Project at the National Security Archive and is the author of *The Pinochet File: A Declassified Dossier on Atrocity and Accountability*. "They have generated news headlines; they have been used as evidence in human rights crimes; and now they can provide the powerful verdict of history."

The exhibit, mounted in the museum's "Galeria de la Memoria," will run until March, 2018.

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