

Viral Chilean Protester Photo Captured Mood of September 11th



Santiago de Chile, September 16 (RHC)-- A powerful photograph of a young, young Chilean woman protester squaring off against an armed special forces officer during a march commemorating the nation's September 11th of 1973 has gone viral, reports Chilean daily La Tercera.

Taken by Reuters photojournalist Carlos Vera Mancilla outside the General Cemetery of Recoleta, the image has been viewed almost 600,000 times on the Chilean daily's Facebook page alone.

According to the Reuters photographer, the young protester was walking with a group when "special forces began selectively arresting people." It was then that "she reacted and stood before the policeman with a defiant look."

Fifty protesters were arrested during clashes with security forces throughout Chile on Sunday -- the 43rd anniversary of the fascist military coup -- as demonstrators honored democratically-elected President Salvador Allende.

The La Moneda presidential palace hosted the main ceremony, which recalled how in the early morning

hours of September 11, 1973, the Chilean Armed Forces -- led by Army General Augusto Pinochet -- began one of the bloodiest periods in the nation's history.

With the support of the United States, 2,279 people were murdered during the Pinochet regime while a further 1,248 people were disappeared, 28,000 were tortured and 250,000 people were detained. A further 200,000 people were forced into exile.

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