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## PART I

# *The Conduct and Organization of the National Defense*

*Chile shares with many countries, especially with those located on the American continent, a number of institutional and cultural characteristics. However, it also possesses other characteristics which distinguish it not only from them, but from the whole community of nations in general. These distinctive features are the result of the Chilean people's historical experience, its cultural heritage, its traditions, and the evolution of its public institutions from the time in which national independence was forged.*

*As a State, Chile participates in the international system in the same way as other countries do, but it is precisely because of these distinctive features that the Chilean State must define the particular way in which Chile take part.*

*The country's population with its distinctive features, the national territory and*

*the institutions of the Republic are the objectives of National Defense.*

*The State's responsibility to protect the elements which are vital to it, including the sovereignty to make the decisions that affect the future of the nation, entails the need to report what we are, who we are, where we are located, and what we want. This is a pre-requisite for laying the foundations of what we want to defend. Therefore, finding a clear answer to these issues and disseminating it to the people as a whole, through a tool such as this Book of National Defense, help to outline the type of defense we need.*

*Because subjects related to the characteristics of the State, of the population and of the national territory are important foundations of Defense Policy, this book begins with a section devoted to these topics.*

# 1. Foundations and Characteristics



The principles of Chile's institutional republican and democratic order and its national objectives play a crucial role among the elements on which National Defense is based. They are the foundations of the Defense architecture and they guide the State's actions in pursuit of external security. Through them we can understand the importance of the security challenges the country faces in the international arena.

## 1. BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE STATE

The Political Constitution of the Republic, in its First Chapter on "Foundations of an Institutional System" establishes the principles that guide the legal and political system in Chile and that express the continuity of the nation's republican tradition.

They are principles which are also recognized by other countries also guided by the premises of a democratic regime and of respect for human beings and their rights, but to which each country

imprints its personal seal in the daily process of putting them into practice.

In Chile there is broad recognition of human beings, their dignity and rights, and the communities in which they live, starting with the family. Full respect of the rights of the people require that the State abide by the objectives set out in box 1 (See Box 1).

The equality and dignity inherent to every individual are the basis for the socio-economic objectives that are a priority for the country, such

### BOX 1

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE STATE

- ▶ To be at the service of human beings and to promote the public welfare.
- ▶ To respect and promote the essential rights that emanate from the human nature.
- ▶ To protect the family as the core of society, and to work to strengthen it.
- ▶ To protect the population.
- ▶ To promote the harmonious integration of all sectors of the country.
- ▶ To contribute to the creation of the social conditions that will allow each and every member of the national community the best possible self-realization both spiritually and materially.

as cohesion, social integration and overcoming poverty.

### 1.1. Institutional Order: Democracy and the Constitutional State

Chile is a democratic republic, as established in Article 4 of its Political Constitution, governed by the rule of law and the principles of constitutional supremacy, of due process, of judicial protection and oversight of State administrative actions. Within this context of democracy and pluralism, the State ensures the right of individuals to participate with equal access in national life with full use of their individual freedoms.

The State of Chile is a unified state with sovereignty over its entire continental, island and Antarctic territories, as well as over air and sea space, in accordance with the respective international laws and treaties. It exercises its sovereignty through the people and the authorities that represent them in accordance with its Political Constitution, recognizing as a limit of its actions the essential rights that emanate from human nature.

In its international relations, Chile fully adheres to the principles of peaceful resolution of conflicts, of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other states and of respect for international law.

### 1.2. National Objectives

The State of Chile pursues general objectives that are set forth in its constitution, which in turn is the result of the historical experience and political and cultural heritage of the Chilean people. These objectives give rise to goals that can therefore be considered as expectations of the Chilean people as a whole. These goals guide and give consistency to the overall activities of the State, including Defense. Within this specific sphere, where they are known as permanent national objectives, these goals are the basis for the planning function. (See Box 2).

In the form in which they are expressed in box 2, these permanent national objectives are in keeping with Chile's constitutional tradition and it is the duty of each government administration, from its own political positions, to promote a public agenda that implements them. In other words, the permanent national objectives are updated and carried out through decisions, instruments and actions that express the politic will of the Chilean democratic institutions.

Governments prepare these up-dated (or political) national objectives for a varying periods of time, but the time schedules they set don't generally end with their own terms of office.

Naturally, it is easier to get citizens to make a commitment to defense and security if there is a greater awareness and consensus concerning the final objectives to be attained.

## 2. CHARACTERISTICS: STATE AND DEFENSE

The primary functions of the Chilean State are domestic governance, foreign relations and administration of justice, gathering and allocation of financial resources and defense. Generally speaking, the functions of defense are to protect the population, to preserve the national territory and to safeguard the State's capability to exercise its sovereignty when faced with external threats to these fundamental elements of the country, as well as to support the achievement of national objectives in the international sphere.

Defense must be considered a public asset in an overall sense. It fulfills a basic social function for the existence of society that only the State can provide. As part of the security which the country needs, Defense helps to make society's development possible.

### 2.1. Defense as a Function

Defense is an asset available to all members of the national community; once it is produced no-

#### BOX 2

##### NATIONAL PERMANENT OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Preservation of the Chilean nation.
- ▶ Conservation and enrichment of its identity and cultural patrimony.
- ▶ Maintenance of its political independence.
- ▶ Maintenance of its sovereignty.
- ▶ Maintenance of its national territorial integrity.
- ▶ The achievement of high, sustained and sustainable economic development.
- ▶ The achievement of a social development that harmonizes with economic development and is based on individual capabilities and equal opportunity for all.
- ▶ Maintenance of a peaceful and cooperative coexistence among civilians.
- ▶ International projection.
- ▶ Maintenance of good international relations.

body enjoys it to the detriment of others. In order to guarantee this effect, it is necessary that the following conditions be met:

- a) The monopoly of the legitimate force must belong to the State.
- b) The State must organize it, endow it with resources and assign objectives of national significance.
- c) The State must carry out this task continuously over time, whether in peace or war.
- d) The exercise of this function must encompass all State entities needed for Defense since its sphere of action exceeds the limits of what is strictly military.

## 2.2. Defense, Security and Development

The relationship between defense and security and development is one of the most complex among those existing in the public sphere. This complexity is due to theoretical and political doctrines arisen after II World War, as well as to the tendency to use some concepts as interchangeable.

The security of the nation cannot be defined as any State action directed towards preserving the nation's institutional legal system and ensuring the free exercise of its sovereignty both internally and externally. Rather, it is the result of a series of actions carried out by the State in order to make progress in achieving its objectives and safeguarding national interests when dealing with significant risks, threats or interference. Therefore, the establishment of security becomes desirable since it allows for the implementation of the objectives set forth by the nation and the State, particularly those of social and economic development.

National security is achieved through well-defined state functions. External security is basically achieved through diplomatic and defense functions. Internal security is achieved through the "Domestic Order" function and security against catastrophes is achieved through the "Civil and Environmental Protection" function. The implementation of each one of these functions requires an organic structure capable of planning and execution, a supporting legal framework, funding and a guiding policy.

Even though security and defense are closely related, the concept of defense is more specific than that of security. Defense does not inherently produce the security desired, but it is certain-

ly one of the essential factors in achieving it.

Defense contributes to the security of the country, through both deterrence and international cooperation. One of the ways cooperation takes place is through the participation in peacekeeping operations, in military interchanges and in combined multinational training exercises, which are part of the array of mutual confidence measures.

Within the overall function of security and external security, and as part of security and development –which is, after all, the general objective of the State– a dynamic relationship is created, but one in which security cannot be understood as an end in itself. The State function of providing security is limited by the requirement of providing the nation's public welfare and of serving humanity. Therefore, it not ethically permissible to trample the permanent values of justice and human dignity in order to achieve the security of a nation.

## 2.3. Human Security

This is an emerging concept in the sphere of international policy which involves nations committing to act within the framework of International Humanitarian Law under international conflict scenarios; this commitment is similar to that which countries owe to their own citizens in matters concerning their rights and freedoms. The principal value of this concept lies in changing the concern for security issues by complementing the traditional concept which is centered on the State and shifting it to individuals, thus minimizing the negative effects produced by increasing insecurity and tensions. This introduces a new sensibility to the way security matters are handled, since it encourages an understanding approach and takes into account their multidimensional character.

This approach serves as a basis for handling problems typical of the globalization era. Many of these problems transcend the sphere of international conflicts and therefore cannot be approached through defense policies. Such is the case, for example, of efforts to reduce the existing technological gap between developed and poor countries, to reduce the impact of criminal violence in large cities or to address the consequences of a spreading pandemics such as AIDS. But the concept is applied in relation to United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and could be applied in actions taken to handle conflicts that

may give rise to crimes against humanity or cause regional crises and increase the level of insecurity among affected persons.

Although the human security approach still offers some aspects in need of a more precise definition, it represents progress in conceptualizing the notion of security and for this reason it has drawn growing international support. This is due to international law's acknowledgment of the individual and to the importance that observance of human rights has acquired in the international agenda. To help create mechanisms that truly permit safeguarding the life of each person against conventional and unconventional threats constitutes a political objective of Chile's international action.

#### 2.4. National Defense and the Internal Order of the Republic

The functions of National Defense have to do with external security, which is defined by society's consensus of what differentiates external security from the tasks of internal order and public safety that the Political Constitution of the Republic delegates to the Police Force and the Investigations Bureau.

For certain emergency situations, Article 39 and following of the Constitution set up the rules for the use of the Armed Forces in tasks of internal order: internal war or internal disturbance, severe disruption of internal order or evident threat to national security of internal an origin, and public disaster.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> States of emergency defined in the Constitution are: a State of Siege (can be declared by the President of the Republic, with the approval of the National Congress, in the event of internal war or internal disturbance); a State of Emergency (can be declared by the President of the Republic, with the approval of the National Security Council, in the event of severe disruption of internal order, damages or threats to national security by a cause of internal origin), and a State of Catastrophe (can be declared by the President of the Republic, with the approval of the National Security Council, in the event of public disaster).

## 2. The Territory and Population of Chile



Protecting the territory and its population is, ultimately, the essential objective of Defense. For this reason, the distinctive features of the national territory and of the Chilean people constitute the basic references to be considered in drawing up a National Defense Policy. The following pages describe the most relevant characteristics of our territory, its geography and the people who inhabit it.

### 1. THE NATIONAL TERRITORY

The Chilean territory is defined and delimited by borders that are the result of existing treaties, freely and legitimately agreed upon, and by arbitral award. Of the 6,630 km comprising its borders, it shares 180 km with Peru, 850 km with Bolivia and 5,600 km with Argentina<sup>2</sup> (See Box 3). For administrative purposes, the land portion of the national territory is divided into thirteen regions (See Figure 1).

The area of Chile in the American continent makes it the longest and narrowest country in the world. Proportionally, it is also the country with the largest sea and air space, where international law allows the country to exercise varying degrees of sovereignty. In general, it has sovereignty over a trapezoid that borders on Peru (to the north), Bo-

livia and Argentina (to the east), includes Easter Island (to the west) and the South Pole. This large land space, with its corresponding sea and air space, but not including the high seas within it, is what we understand as “national territory”.

The continental portion of the national territory covers a surface area of 756,626 km<sup>2</sup>. Its peculiar geographical features have given it island characteristics: in the north, it has vast areas of desert and arid lands; in the south the Drake Pass; in the east of its territory the high Andes mountains rise, further south the mountains penetrate into the land stretching towards the ocean. The Strait of Magellan crosses the territory between the Pacific and the Atlantic Oceans.

In addition to the continental portion, the sea islands and the Chilean Antarctic Territory also form part of the Chilean territory.

The island portion of the national territory includes several islands in the South Pacific. The closest of these are the Robinson Crusoe Archi-



<sup>2</sup> Figures are approximate.

## BOX 1

**EXISTING TREATIES AND BORDER AGREEMENTS****With Argentina**

- ▶ Border Treaty of July 23, 1881.
- ▶ Protocol of May 1, 1893.
- ▶ Expert reports from Barros Arana and Moreno of August 29, September 3, and October 1, 1898; Minutes of Conferences between Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Argentine Plenipotentiary Ambassador in Santiago, on September 15 and 22, 1898.
- ▶ Fourth Meeting of the Demarcation Commission (Puna de Atacama), of March 24, 1899.
- ▶ Award by His Britannic Majesty Edward VII, of November 20, 1902.
- ▶ Protocol on Reinstallation and Placement of Boundary Marks along the Chilean-Argentine Border of April 16, 1941
- ▶ Arbitration Award by Her Britannic Majesty, Elizabeth II of December 9, 1966 (Palena)
- ▶ Arbitration Award by Her Britannic Majesty, Elizabeth II of April 18, 1977 (Beagle Channel).
- ▶ Peace and Friendship Treaty of November 29, 1984.
- ▶ Presidential Statement about Boundaries between the Republic of Chile and the Republic of Argentina of August 2, 1991.
- ▶ Award by the International Arbitration Tribunal on the tracking of the borderline between Boundary Mark 62 and Fitz Roy Mount of October 21, 1994 (Laguna del Desierto).
- ▶ Agreement of December 16, 1998 to state precisely the tracking of the borderline between Fitz Roy Mount and Daudet Hill.

**With Bolivia**

- ▶ Peace and Friendship Treaty between Chile and Bolivia of October 20, 1904.
- ▶ Agreement relating to the Replacement of the Boundary Line along two Stretches of the Border, of May 1, 1907.
- ▶ Protocol on the Conservation of Boundary Marks and Additional Act of August 10, 1942.

**With Peru**

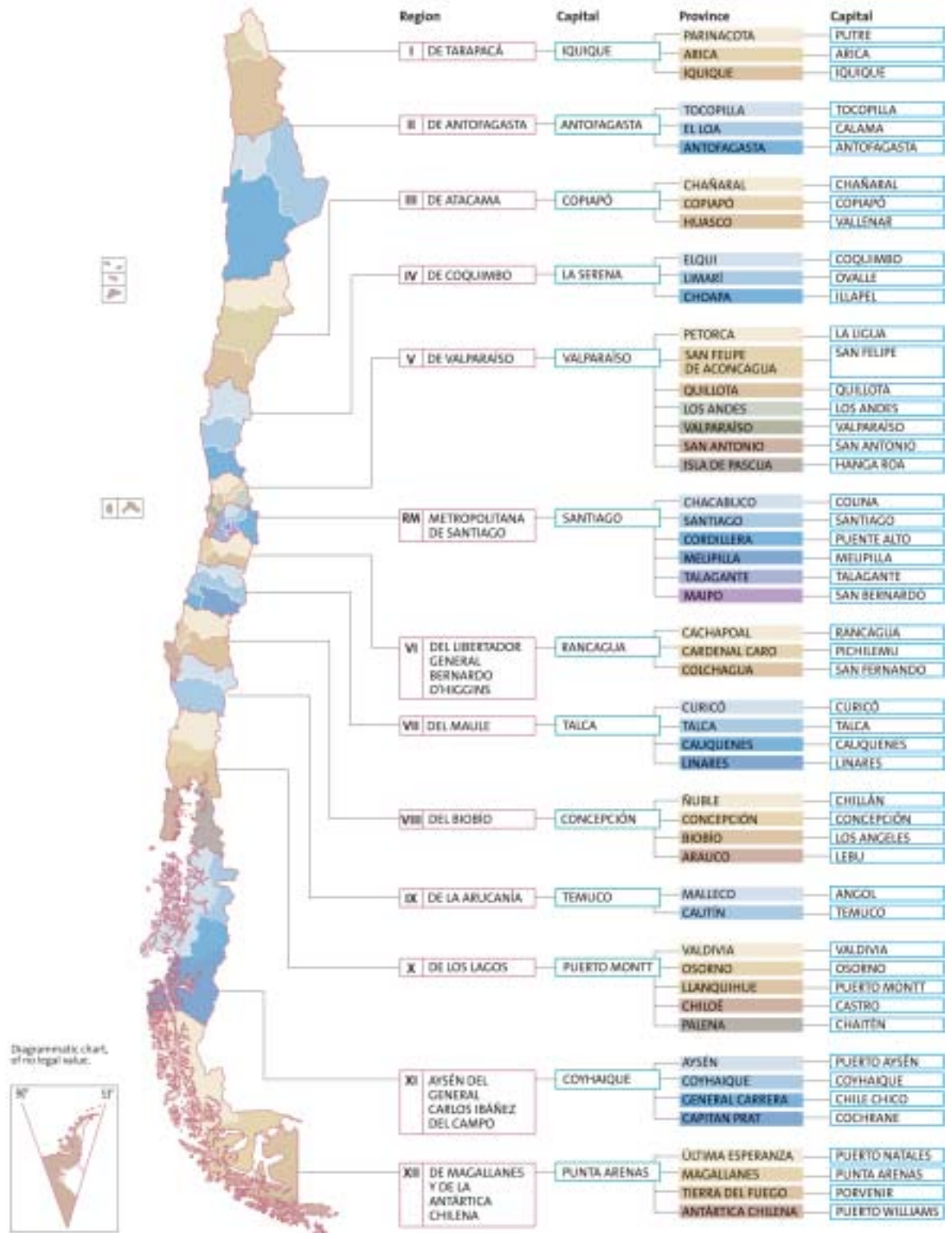
- ▶ Peace and Friendship Treaty of October 20, 1883.
- ▶ Ancillary Treaty and Protocol of June 3, 1929.
- ▶ Certificate determining the Border Line between Chile and Peru, of August 5, 1930.
- ▶ Statement about Maritime Zone of August 18, 1952 (Chile, Peru and Ecuador).
- ▶ Agreement on the Special Maritime Border Zone of December 4, 1954 (Chile, Peru and Ecuador).
- ▶ Certificate of the Chilean-Peruvian Commission for the field study for the installation of delimitation marks visible from the sea, to give form to the parallel of the maritime border originating in Boundary Mark N° 1, of 26th April 1968.
- ▶ Act of the Chilean-Peruvian Joint Commission in charge of verification of the position of Boundary Mark N° 1 and of marking up the maritime boundary, of 22nd August 1969.
- ▶ Agreement on the Conservation of Boundary Marks at the Common Border of 6th March 1997.

pelago, at 360 nautical miles (667 km) from the continent and the islands of San Félix and San Ambrosio at 500 nautical miles (926 km). The most distant ones are the Island of Sala y Gómez at 1,870 nautical miles (3,463 km) and Easter Island at 2,000 nautical miles (3,700 km) from the central coast. These latter islands enlarge the Chilean continental shelf from 200 to 350 nautical miles, which provides Chile with a total seabed of 4,633,615 km<sup>2</sup>, a little over six times the surface area of its South American continental territory.

The Chilean Antarctic Territory is located south of Drake Pass and beyond the South American continent, forming a rounded triangle stretching towards the South Pole between meridians 53° and 90° west, with an approximate surface area of 1,250,000 km<sup>2</sup>. On the basis of valuable geographical, historical and juridical and administrative title deeds, these boundaries were stated precisely by Executive Decree N° 1,747, dated November 6, 1940. The area possesses potential fishing, mining and water resources, which are under investigation by several countries, includ-

FIGURE 1

**Political-Administrative Map of Chile**



ing ours. Chile has exploited part the marine resources; the development of potential mining resources has been banned for the next 50 years, as from February 18, 1998, when the Protocol for the Protection of the Antarctic Environment came into force. The potential of water resources from the ice represents an enormous wealth for the future, which has not been appraised.

## 2. CHILEAN GEOGRAPHY

The national territory is closely related to national defense, not only because its protection is one of the purposes of defense, but also because its distinctive geographical features require unique defense approaches, originating unique geostrategic problems, difficult to face and solve.

### 2.1. The Land

Chile's territory on the South American continent is formed by a long narrow belt which in part lies between the Andes Mountains and the Pacific Ocean, or incorporating the Andes into a vast area of its southern sector, with a profusion of islands and coastal archipelagos. Its total length is 4,300 km and its maximum width is 460 km. It is located between latitude 17°30' and 56°00' S and between longitude 66°30' and 74°40' W, not including the occasional sea islands or the Antarctic territory.

Seen from another perspective, the American territory of Chile is divided into three large geographical areas to which the sea islands and Antarctic territory must be added. The first area is located to the north of the country (regions I, II and III). It has a desert climate, a low population density, and is rich in mineral and marine resources. It is endowed with important, fully equipped ports that provide the necessary shipping services from and into Chile as well as from and into Bolivia, extending Chile's influence towards the center of the South American continent. The second area (regions IV through X) forms the large central zone. With a temperate climate, it houses more than 85% of the national population and the largest portion of industry. It is the main production and consumer sector of the country. Here are located the most important port and airport complexes of the country. They are responsible for the dispatch of 65% of national cargo. Finally, the third area, is the southern zone, (regions XI through XII). Its climate is cold, and it is characterized by the presence of a great number of islands and small coastal villages,

which end at Region XII of Magallanes and the Chilean Antarctic. This latter region depends mainly on its sea and air routes to connect itself with the center of the country. Its main port, the city of Punta Arenas, also offers air and sea connections with the Antarctic continent. The interoceanic passages of the Strait of Magellan and the Drake Pass constitute salient features of the southern zone. The Beagle Channel also constitutes an important sea route in this area.

### 2.2. The Sea

The national sea territory is equivalent to the "Chilean Sea."<sup>3</sup> It comprises all the oceanic waters that bathe or encircle territories under or entitled to national sovereignty up to 200 nautical miles (370 km). Taking into account that Chile has a latitudinal coastline of 4.300 km, its sea surface area totals 3,464,462 kms<sup>2</sup>, not including the maritime projection of the Antarctic territory, over which Chile has jurisdiction in accordance with existing international legal instruments applicable to this area. This sea area places our country in a privileged position on an ocean that is gaining in importance day by day, in addition to having, in proportion to its territory, one of the largest coastal surface areas in the world.

Within this sea territory it is necessary to keep in mind the following conceptual definitions:

- a)** Territorial Sea, of 12 nautical miles (22 km) of surface area, measured from the base lines, over which full sovereignty is exercised, acknowledging the right of innocent passage to foreign vessels pursuant to the terms of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- b)** Contiguous Zone, of 24 nautical miles (44 km), measured from the base lines where the width of the territorial sea is calculated. Inspections are carried out in this zone both to prevent as well as to penalize violations of customs, government, immigration or sanitary laws and regulations.
- c)** Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), understood as the sea area extending up to 200 nautical miles (370 km), measured from the



<sup>3</sup> Defined in Executive Decree N° 364, of May 30, 1974..

base lines, where the State exercises sovereign rights with respect to the exploitation, exploration, preservation, and administration of living and non-living natural resources that exist in the water mass, ocean floor and ocean subsoil, as well as jurisdiction with respect to the installation and use of artificial islands, facilities and structures, marine scientific research, protection and preservation of the environment and other rights recognized by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

In addition, Chile conceives as "Presential Sea" the ocean space comprised between the border of our Exclusive Economic Zone and the meridian that going through the western side of the continental shelf of Easter Island stretches out from the parallel of Boundary Mark N° 1 towards the Southern Pole. This concept expresses the will to have a presence in this area of high seas for the purpose of projecting maritime interests with respect to the rest of the international community, monitoring the environment and preserving marine resources, with unrestricted adherence to International Law.

The Convention on the Law of the Sea, on the drafting and approval of which Chile played an active and important role, the existence of other international agreements ratified by Chile and the existence of national legislation on the Environment, as well as the Fishing Law both currently in force and the current policy on the use of the Coastline<sup>4</sup> are clear and intense expressions of Chile's maritime vocation. International legislation on the sea comprises a set of conventional and customary rules and regulating instruments for specialized issues that are at present under negotiation. It is essential for the country to maintain an active participation in the forums that address this issue, to express its continuing maritime vocation, to protect its sovereignty and rights on the basis of the treaties and international agreements that support them and to project its interests on this subject.

In addition to the opportunities offered to Chile to develop and exploit its maritime resources, the international law of the sea contains other important areas that our country must work on in the future to ensure essential resources. Among them, the study of the Antarctic continental shelf in the light of the principles and methods contained in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the maritime delimitations of the Chilean Antarctic territory and

the preservation of Antarctic living sea resources, in compliance with applicable regimes, need to be stressed.

With respect to trade, the sea provides a fast, safe and efficient communication route for the transportation of large volumes of cargo. The fast development of nations located at the other side of the Pacific basin, which has made them attractive markets for national and regional products, allow us to consider this ocean as an important sea faring route of fast growing activity which we must utilize and control properly. However, our export and import trade is not restricted to the Pacific basin area but also encompasses the east coast of the United States, Europe, the Middle East and all the trading centers of the world.

Statistical studies point out that approximately 90% of our foreign trade is carried by sea. Our main export product (copper) and our main import product (oil) are transported entirely by sea. Their protection, therefore, is of special importance. It is also important to safeguard live and mineral resources of our Exclusive Economic Zone, which requires permanent monitoring and means to stop depredation.

Within this context, Chile has acceded, since 1929, to the International Agreement for the Safety of Human Life at Sea, and has acquired specific responsibilities of sea rescue and salvage on the southeastern quadrant since 1953. It contributes to the General Oceanic Bathymetric Charter since 1962, acts as Coordinator of the Pacific Southeastern Maritime Area for the International Office of Hydrography since 1987 and for the Maritime Traffic Control since 1989. In addition, Chile is an active member of the Red Alert against Tsunamis on the Pacific Ocean Network. All of the above falls within the framework of a maritime zone of national responsibility exceeding the 30,000,000 kms<sup>2</sup> measured from meridian 131° W, which the country must honor before the international community, and must have available the necessary navy and maritime means for proper fulfillment of its commitments (See Figure 2).

### 2.3. The Airspace

In accordance with international law, the sovereignty of the State of Chile also extends to the air space over its territory and territorial sea. This space is determined by the presence of gases, especially oxygen, which permit the flight of craft sustained on the aerodynamic resistance offered

by gases to moving objects at specific speeds. The upper limit of this space is located within a range of 80 to 100 kilometers in height which marks the border with outer space a universal heritage of humanity.

For air traffic control purposes, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) recognizes Chile's protection over an area which in general extends from the northern border (latitude 18° 21' N) to the South Pole, and from the international political boundary to the east as far as meridian 131° 00' W. As a total, the air space under Chile's control covers a surface of 26.8 millions of km<sup>2</sup>, which includes its continental and island territories, its jurisdictional waters and the high seas they contain (See Figure 3).

### 2.4. The Polar Territory

This cannot be confused with the land and sea territory, and least of all, with the air space.

The Chilean polar space delimited by meridians 53° y 90° West has an area of 1,250,000 kms<sup>2</sup>.

Contemporary international law does not have universally accepted rules about the way to acquire and preserve sovereignty over polar space. It is for this reason that the Antarctic Treaty, in force since June 23, 1961, decided to restrict the use of the Antarctic to peaceful and scientific activities and placed a 30-year freeze on litigious claims without altering the positions of the signatories either in favor or against alleged sovereignties.

### 3. THE POPULATION OF CHILE

During the process of becoming a nation, its inhabitants developed a number of distinctive characteristics and a wide spectrum of specific features that would later differentiate it from other nations. Normally, through this same process a nation organizes itself politically into a State which it endows with the basic functions required for its development, including the function of defense. The population of a country is the most valuable asset that its defense must protect.

FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3

**Territory under Chilean Aeronautical Control**



### 3.1. National Identity

The defense as such is ultimately based on the most elementary parts of the national State. These parts—compiled or expressed in the Principles and Objectives of the State—correspond to elements that form part of the goods and purposes that Chile is decided to protect, since they are what give it life and provide it with an identity among the nations. Chilean society is the specific result of the combination of different ethnic groups, all of which have enriched the population of Chile<sup>5</sup> through the mixing of races.

#### a) The Chilean People

From a historical perspective, the process of development of our national identity is associated with another long process: the culture mixing resulting from Spanish rule through the conquest of the territory. In Chile it began in 1535, with the arrival of the first Spanish expedition, which had traveled from Cuzco towards the southern lands. The collision of European civilization with the indigenous cultures reveals, as nothing else can, the painful and bloody process of initial syncretism in the construction of the sense and meaning of Chilean people. The imposition of the political authority of the Spanish King over the native people of the New World, and the latter's natural and legitimate rebellion, resulted in a disposition to resist adverse conditions, a legacy that would leave an imprint on both cultures and constitutes an integral part of our character.

As years went by, the shaping of language, traditions, values, customs, religion, the rules and structures, were slowly being integrated into the incipient social texture of the Capitanía General de Chile. This process denotes a feature of our identity which is already very much our own, because in no other place in America was that process so long and so hard. As a result, Spanish culture remained dominant and many elements, particularly those of a religious and cultural nature, were deeply ingrained in our ethos as a nation. Because of this, the mixing of races in Chile was very peculiar and quite different from what happened in other Spanish-American countries.

Successive social and political changes brought with them the incorporation of new elements, which were to form part of the so-called “identifying deposits”. For example, the process of emancipation from Spain was a significant milestone because it produced a national feeling within the population of Chilean-born Spaniards. Republican institutionalism, the common desire

to strive for progress and to a community life ruled by freedom and growing participation are components which had already been incorporated by the 19th century, even though the task of perfecting them has fallen to successive generations of Chileans

Some essential aspects of the legacy of western culture that have contributed to these “deposits” that form our national identity, are expressed in the chapter on “Institutional Foundations” of the Political Constitution: for example: the dignity of human being, the protection of the fundamental rights which such dignity requires, the consideration of the family as the core of society and the consideration of the State as an entity at the service of humanity. In short, the elements compiled in those “Institutional Foundations” constitute substantive features that society as a whole must safeguard.

#### b) Contribution of Defense to National Identity

The effects associated with military activity in the different periods of our history were influential in the process of shaping the national identity described above. Historians, sociologists, anthropologists and, in general, people who have studied Chilean society agree that the conflict and the human tragedy it entailed explains some of the characteristics involved in the formation of Chile as a unique national unit.

Many episodes that took place during the 19th-century conflicts, starting with the battles for independence, helped shape the traditions and symbols of the Republic and the nation. These are the traditions and symbols that have nourished the Armed Forces, which have in turn helped to transmit and revive them within society.

It should also be noted that, on the whole, during those historical moments in which new elements were incorporated into the Spanish matrix of Chilean society, already distinguished by the heritage of the struggle between the Spanish and Mapuches, other events also left their imprint on the Armed Forces: the early settling of English immigrants in the Valparaíso area and the early Britannic influence on the Navy which had already started during the battles for independence; and the importance of French culture in Chilean society in the mid-1800s, which also influenced the army. The opening of the country to German immigration at a time when Germany enjoyed its greatest prestige in 19th-Century Eu-

rope and the Prussian influence on the Army of the late 1800s and early 1900s, among others.

It can be said that during this long process, the Armed Forces have found a double role to their existence. They formally emerged as organizations in a national sense, prepared to assume the defense of the Chilean people, their territory and their sovereignty expressed in the national State. At the same time, they emerged as institutions associated with the values in which this defense is founded. To the sovereignty and freedom of spirit that sprung up from independence from Spanish rule, the demands for harmonious coexistence, for organization, for development, and for equity and stability are to be added.

### 3.2. Data and Background Information <sup>6</sup>

The number of inhabitants and the different aspects of population distribution are both relevant data from the point of view of defense, given the conditions they impose on the use of human resources which the country must use to maintain external security.

In recent years, Chile has experienced a noticeable change in its quality of life. Nevertheless, the country has remained one of the countries with a lower population growth. The census carried out in April, 2002 has revealed the variations occurring in the last ten years and statistical figures indicate that Chile's current population is 15,116,435. In other words, it has risen by 13.2% over the figures from the previous census carried out in 1992, which reported 13,348,401 inhabi-

tants. So then, in ten years, Chile's population has increased, in absolute figures, by 1,768,034 inhabitants.

In terms of gender distribution, the number of women and men is balanced; with women numbering 7,668,740 and men 7,447,695. With regard to the population as a whole, these figures reveal that women account for 50.7% of the population and men for 49.3%. These figures are similar to those obtained in 1992. With respect to population distribution, the recent census showed that the urban population had reached 13,044,221 inhabitants (86.6%) and that the rural population totals 2,006,120 (13.4%), which places Chilean society of the early 21st century among the other modern industrialized societies of the 20th century. In addition to this information is the fact that, during these ten years, the distribution of the population by regions has not experienced a significant change, since 40.1% of the total population is concentrated in the Metropolitan Region of Santiago, 12.3% in the Bío-Bío Region and, in third place, 10.2% in the Valparaíso Region, figures that are similar to those obtained in the previous census.

Population density is presently 19.9 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>. In other words, there have not been any significant changes, which indicates that the population increased more slowly than in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.<sup>7</sup>



★ <sup>6</sup> National Institute of Statistics [Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas (INE)], Census of 2002, Preliminary Figures. June 2002.

★ <sup>7</sup> This calculation does not include the 1.250.000 kms<sup>2</sup> of surface area of the Chilean Antarctic Territory, and the area encompassed by interior waters, in accordance with the census methodology of INE, Census of 2002.