

Ex-President Alessandri made a desperate last-minute effort to prevent Chile's break with the Axis in January, and he did not meet Vice-President Wallace on the latter's trip to Chile. The situation is not eased by the peculiar instability of the parties of the Left and Centre, which support the Administration. The world situation, however, would hardly seem to favour a reactionary *coup d'Etat* by any American republic at present. It must also be admitted that the situation contains nothing essentially new or unusual in Chile. President Vargas has sent congratulatory messages to The King and President Roosevelt on the closing of the North African campaign, and President Roosevelt, in reply, referred to "the indispensable part played by Brazil's co-operation in these military operations." A telegram of congratulation was also sent to General Giraud. The latter, according to a recent broadcast, is about to send a military mission to Costa Rica.