

Abducted children are safe

From Jan Rocha
in Sao Paulo

TWO SMALL children who disappeared with their parents in Buenos Aires three years ago, have been found adopted by a family in Valparaiso, Chile.

Anatole Julien Grissonas, aged four, and his sister, Eva Lucia Grissonas, aged one, disappeared after security forces invaded their home on September 26, 1976, during a wave of abductions of Uruguayan political exiles in Argentina, after the military coup in March that year.

Their parents, leftwing militants, Mario and Victoria Grissonas, have not been seen since.

The news of the children's discovery was given in Sao Paulo yesterday by the Catholic Church's human rights organisation, Clamor.

The children's grandmother, Senora Maria Angelica Julien, told of her three-year search for the family. She visited police stations, children's homes, presented habeas corpus writs, appealed to generals, archbishops, judges, the UN, wrote to presidents, the Pope, and even the Queen.

It was one of these pictures that led to the discovery. Somebody in Chile recognised the children, and they were located living with a dentist, Senor Jesus Larra-beite, and his wife in a modest block of flats. The couple had adopted the children after they were found abandoned.

Senora Julien, who flew to Chile last week and saw the children, now faces a legal battle to recover them. The adoptive parents refuse to give them up.

This is the first time that any of the thousands of men, women and children who have "disappeared" in Argentina over the last three years have been found.