

ITT Ex-Official Charged With Holding Back Data

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The Justice Department yesterday charged the former Latin American public relations director for the International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. with holding back information from a Senate subcommittee.

The criminal charges were filed in U.S. District Court against Harold V. Hendrix, a former Pulitzer prize-winning newsman who now lives in Miami. He allegedly withheld the information from a Senate subcommittee investigating ITT's activities against the Salvador Allende government in Chile and the company's relationship with the Central Intelligence Agency there.

Informed sources said Hendrix had agreed to plead guilty to the misdemeanor charges, which probably will be transferred to federal court in Miami for disposition. Hendrix' attorney, E. David Rosen of Miami, refused to comment on the case.

Other sources familiar with the investigation said the Justice Department has been examining the testimony of several witnesses before the Senate Subcommittee on Multinational Corporations, including that of ITT Chairman Harold Geneen and former CIA Director Richard M. Helms.

A federal grand jury also has been hearing evidence concerning the testimony of some of the witnesses in addition to Hendrix, according to one Justice attorney.

Hendrix testified before the subcommittee on March 21, 1973, as it was hearing allegations that ITT had interfered in the 1970 Chilean presidential campaign.

The criminal charges filed against Hendrix claim that he withheld from the committee the fact that he exchanged information with CIA employees in Santiago and elsewhere.

The charges said he withheld the information in answering questions concerning:

- The source or sources of certain items of information that appeared in a memorandum or memoranda prepared by him for his superiors at ITT.
- His knowledge that the CIA occasionally exchanged information with representatives of multinational corporations on their activities in foreign countries.
- His conversations with people within the United States embassy in Santiago and their connection to the CIA.

A CIA official publicly testified before the committee in 1973 that he had met with ITT officials in Wash-

ington and had given his assent to ITT proposals for covert support to anti-Allende newspapers as well as the hiring of radio and television "propagandists" favoring other candidates.

According to reports of the Senate hearings, the anti-Allende press and television campaign was proposed by Hendrix and another ITT operative, Robert Berrellez.

Hendrix, 54, could be sentenced to one year in prison and fined \$1,000 for the charge filed yesterday. A former reporter for the Miami News, Kansas City Star and the Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, he won a Pulitzer Prize in 1963 in Miami for stories on the Soviet missile buildup in Cuba.