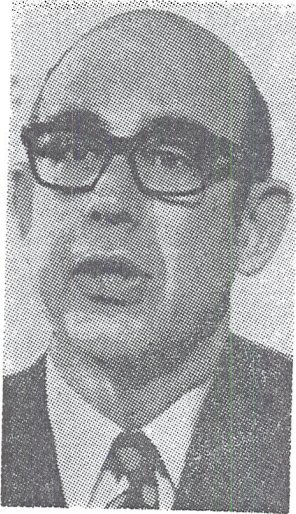


U.S. Pressure In Chile Denied

Washington

A former ambassador to Chile, Edward M. Korrry, said yesterday the United States maintained a "total hands off" policy in Chile's presidential election of 1970.



AP Wirephoto

EDWARD M. KORRY
'No hard line'

Korrry told a Senate foreign relations subcommittee he personally favored a Chilean - conceived plan to block the election of President Salvador Allende of the Chilean Congress.

But, he said, "The United States gave no support to any electoral candidate."

He said also the U.S. government "did not seek to subvert or influence any member of the Chilean Congress, and no hard line was ever applied to Chile."

ACTIVITY

Korrry said he directed U.S. government officials in Chile to avoid political activity as Allende headed toward election.

And, he went on, "no American businessman in Chile ever involved the U.S. embassy in any process to interrupt the election of Dr. Allende."

Korrry described as "ludicrous and without foundation" a report that the U.S. government had prodded former Chilean president Eduardo Frei to unite the anti - Allende political forces in the Chilean Congress.

"We did not prod him," Korrry said.

QUESTION

He was then asked: "Did you ever recommend measures to be taken either directly by the U.S. government or to induce companies to accelerate economic dislocation in Chile to stop Allende?"

The witness hesitated, and then replied: "I'm not certain at this point, I haven't read the record."

And when he was asked if he had received new instructions from Washington as Allende's election appeared more certain, Korrry said he could not testify in public or in secret about the details of any instructions.

Korrry said "the nature of relations between an ambassador and the president" compelled him to decline.

The former ambassador's statement appeared to conflict sharply with the role attributed to him by two former American newsmen working in Chile for the International Telephone and Telegraph Corp.

The two, Hal Hendrix and Robert Berrellez, told an ITT vice president in a since-disclosed memorandum that Korrry had "The green light" from the State Department to keep Allende from taking power.

The September 17, 1970, memorandum was made public by columnist Jack Anderson along with other ITT documents, prompting the subcommittee to investigate.

Allende was elected in October, 1970, by the Chilean Congress. A year later, the Marxist government appropriated the Chile Telephone Co., including ITT interests estimated by the American firm to be worth about \$150 million.

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