

Some U.S. Concerns Would

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Some of the big United States corporations whose properties were seized by the Chilean Government of President Salvador Allende Gossens indicated yesterday that they might consider resuming manufacturing in Chile if a new government there were receptive to investment.

Most of the companies warned, however, that it was too early to assess the prospects of returning. Some of them said they were monitoring developments in Chile through radio stations transmitting from other Latin-American countries.

Properties of more than a dozen United States companies have been seized or sold under pressure to the Allende Government in the last few years. They include copper, steel, chemical rubber, automobile, communications and banking installations.

Estimates of the total value

of the property run as high as \$1-billion, most of it for the copper mines and processing facilities that provide Chile with its dominant industry.

Officials in the auto, chemical and communications industries indicated either that they might be interested in returning to Chile, or that they did not rule out such a possibility.

One exception was a copper company official who said "there's no way we'd go back in." The domestic copper industry was especially hard hit by seizures of copper mines in Chile in the last few years.

Official comments were mainly of the wait-and-see variety, but behind the scenes there was some talk of returning.

A Ford Motor Company spokesman said that the company already had been holding informal discussions with the Allende Government about resuming its auto assembly activities, and that it would have

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Return to Chile if Government Welcomed Them

to study the new developments.

An industry source, however, said the company was clearly interested in returning because of the favorable market for automobiles in Latin America. Ford's assembly plant, valued by it at about \$7-million, was taken over by the Chilean Government in mid-1971.

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., the big chemical manufacturer, said it sold products in Chile, and would look at the country, as it did other Latin American countries, for possible investment opportunities.

Chile bought a small explosives plant from du Pont for \$1-million in early 1972.

A spokesman for the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation said his company's action would depend upon "what government emerges and what its position is going to be."

I.T.T.'s controversial action in offering the United States Government up to \$1-million

to prevent the election of Dr. Allende has been highly publicized.

The company still owns two hotels, a telephone parts factory and a telecommunications operation on Chile. Its 70 per cent share of the Chilean telephone company was seized by the Government.

Although some corporate officials did not eliminate the possibility of returning to Chile, many remained skeptical about the outlook for her economy.

"We don't know what condition our old plant is in now," said one chemical company executive, "but more important, we don't know what shape the economy is going to be in."

Some companies still were negotiating with Chile for compensation for their seized properties, and were uncertain what impact the political coup would have.

The Cerro Corporation, a copper producer, said Chile had

valued its seized properties at \$13.3-million, and that the Government there owed it \$18-million more in loans and \$6.3-million in uncollected interest. The company said it had received no reimbursement from Chile.

"We just don't know what's happening," one Cerro official said.

A number of companies whose Chilean properties have been seized have claims pending with the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, which insures United States investors against loss from political upheavals.

The largest claim is from the Anaconda Company, which filed last year for \$171.4-million. It was awarded \$11.9-million and has submitted the rest to binding arbitration.

I.T.T. has a similar claim for \$92.5-million with the insurer, which is being arbitrated, and Cerro last December filed for \$14.2-million. The Dow Chem-

ical has submitted a claim for \$8.9-million.

Some other companies already have been paid. Kennecott, for example, settled last December for \$66.9-million, after asking for \$76.7-million.

There was no consistent impact in the stock market on companies with either past or current Chilean involvement. In a market that was down slightly, I.T.T. closed down \$1.25 at \$29.75. Cerro was unchanged at \$15.12½; Kennecott was off 25 cents at \$32.37½, and Anaconda was up 87½ cents at \$22.87½.

In commodities markets, the price of copper bounced up quickly on news of the Chilean revolt. Futures prices had been down as much as 1½ cents a pound, when traders learned of the revolt.

Prices subsequently rose the 3-cent daily limit to 78.4 cents a pound on the New York Mercantile Exchange for copper to be delivered in December.