

Rep. Fraser Ties Move By Chile to U.S. Aid

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State Department officials voiced regrets yesterday that Chile has canceled a scheduled study mission of the U.N. Human Rights Commission, and a key congressman on international affairs said the decision could jeopardize prospects of U.S. aid to Chile.

President Augusto Pinochet declared in a speech Friday night that Chile would not receive the six-nation mission, which the military government previously had said it would welcome.

"We have seen press stories on the decision," said a State Department official. "If they are accurate we would of course regret a decision of the government of Chile to cancel the visit of inquiry."

Rep. Donald M. Fraser (D-

Minn.), chairman of the House International Affairs subcommittee on international organizations, said the "deeply deplorable and regressive" decision comes after Chile's promised improvement in human rights observance "which could have increased aid."

Fraser noted that last year the Congress voted to end military assistance to Chile as a result of treatment of political prisoners there.

Gen. Pinochet's government recently declared an end to the practice of holding prisoners for extended periods without informing their families. Nevertheless, reports from Chile indicate this new rule has not been followed in all cases.