

## Order to Harass Chile Reported

Washington

A former Customs Service officer testified yesterday he was ordered to harass travelers and delay cargo shipments from Chile during the regime of Salvador Allende as part of a nationwide campaign to retaliate for Allende's nationalization of American corporations.

The allegations, supported by second Customs Service officer, were denied by several top officials.

Bruce Brower, who quit the service in September, 1974, told the Senate finance subcommittee on international trade that he had been ordered in 1971 by a then-district director "to step outside customs law and regulations . . . to harass the people and cause delays in delivery of shipments" from Chile.

Brower, who worked as a regional import specialist in Denver and dealt primarily with cargo and not passengers, said he never handled shipments from Chile.

He said he was given the order by Roland Raymond, then-district director in El Paso, Tex., who has been promoted to an assistant commissioner post in Washington.

Brower said that the order was presented orally at a meeting in the summer of 1971 with the now-retired Denver port of entry director, Kelly Tipps; another import specialist, Albert L. Ehret, and Raymond.

He said the directive never was written down but it also was given to customs inspectors at Denver's Stapleton Airport.

Raymond, testifying at the hearing, insisted he never gave such an order.

But Brower, recalling the meeting, said Raymond reported that "the United States was having a very bad time in Chile."

"He said we would implement" the harassment plan "and make no mention of it to anyone at any time," Brower said.

"It was stated this directive would only be given to a few select people" and would be denied by the Customs Service if revealed, Brower said.

Joseph Grubach, deputy district Customs Service director in Detroit, testified that when he heard unofficially about the program he spoke to the district director in Houston, who is now retired.

"I asked if it was true," Grubach told the subcommittee. "He said, 'Yes sir. I got the same order to do the same thing. It was all verbal.'"

Grubach, who said he understood that the program lasted only one week, reported that the chief inspector in Houston also confirmed the order.

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