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'Cordial' Exchange

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Allende Huddles With U.S. Envoy

SANTIAGO — (AP) — Undersecretary of State John Irwin met yesterday with President Salvador Allende in what a U.S. official described as a cordial encounter.

Irwin was the highest U.S. diplomat to call on Chile's Marxist chief of state since Allende was elected in 1970.

Allende suggested the meeting when he met Irwin at a reception Thursday night.

\$1 Billion

A spokesman said they talked about "all problems of mutual interest," including Chile's efforts to renegotiate its large foreign debt to industrialized countries.

Chile owes the United States more than \$1 billion.

U.S. Ambassador Nathaniel Davis accompanied Irwin to the meeting at La Moneda Palace. The session lasted an hour, twice as long as scheduled.

Asked if Irwin and Allende talked about the International Telephone & Telegraph affair, a U.S. spokesman replied "no comment."

UN Meeting

ITT, which has worldwide holdings, was reported to have met with the CIA in 1970 to discuss ways to prevent Allende from coming to power.

Nothing came of the reported meetings, but Chile has launched an investigation into CIA activities in the country.

Irwin is in Santiago as head of the U.S. delegation attending the third UN Conference on Trade and Development. The 141-nation meeting is seeking to find ways to narrow the widening gap between rich and poor countries.

Irwin told the conference earlier yesterday that despite an economic pinch at home the United States will try to continue to help developing countries.

He said serious strains on the American economy last year caused the United States to make "difficult decisions" to protect itself. These measures included a temporary import surtax, which was unpopular in many foreign countries.