

ITT Chile Role--New Laws Urged

Washington

Senator Frank Church (Dem-Idaho) said yesterday that International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. violated no law, but "overstepped the line of acceptable corporate behavior" in trying to get the CIA to interfere in the 1970 Chilean presidential election.

Church said legislation will be introduced to make it a criminal offense for American citizens or residents to offer funds to U.S. government agencies to interfere in foreign elections or for such agencies or government employees to accept such funds.

Church also urged Congress "to review in depth the methods by which CIA clandestine operations are authorized and reviewed."

"I am very much disturbed by the behavior of both the ITT and the CIA, but we can find nothing illegal about it," Church said. "That is why we have proposed the legislation."

Church, chairman of the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Multinational Corporations which investigated the matter, said in a report on the hearings: "The highest officials of the ITT sought to engage the CIA in a plan to covertly manipulate the outcome of the Chilean presidential election of 1970."

"In so doing, the company overstepped the line of acceptable corporate behavior," he said.

"The pressures which the company sought to bring to bear on the U.S. government for CIA intervention contradict the best long-term interests of multinational corporations themselves. Such pressures are also incompatible with the formulation of U.S. foreign policy in accordance with our overall national interest."

In testimony earlier this year, William V. Broeoe, former CIA chief of clandestine services for the Western Hemisphere, testified that during a July 16, 1970, meeting in a Washington hotel, ITT president Harold S. Geneen offered at least \$1 mil-



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SEN. FRANK CHURCH
CIA interference

lion to support any U.S. government plan to prevent the election of Salvador Allende, the Marxist candidate who ultimately became president of Chile.

Geneen later testified under oath that he could not remember making any such offer, but accepted Broeoe's account of their meeting as accurate.

United Press

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22 JUN 73
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