

# Changes in Chile Policy Are Urged

(CHILE)  
SIA

Washington

Senator Edward M. Kennedy (Dem-Mass.) has urged what he called "a sharp reversal in American policy toward the Chilean junta."

He urged President Nixon "to condition any U.S. military economic assistance on the junta's respect for human rights and progress in the restoration of constitutional government."

Kennedy, chairman of the Senate Judiciary subcommittee on refugees, issued a statement yesterday saying:

"More than four months after the violent overthrow of the Allende government (in Chile), the junta apparently continues its gross violations of human rights."

Kennedy said that the President should make every effort to encourage the junta to respect human rights.

"The President signed this bill into law," Kennedy said. "But there is precious little evidence on the record to indicate that much has really been done."

"In fact, the administration, in its growing support of the junta, has conveniently dismissed the continuing violations of human rights by labeling them as an internal matter of Chile ..."

Kennedy made his comments in releasing the January 28 response of the State Department to a series of questions he said he had submitted on October 18. Portions of the text that were classified "confidential" were deleted.

In its response, the State Department said very few hard facts are available on the allegations of widespread killings in Chile.

Associated Press