

'Get a Little Rougher'

The U.S. Shift on Chile

Washington

The Nixon administration, in a change of its clandestine policies toward the regime of President Salvador Allende of Chile, authorized the Central Intelligence Agency to begin supplying financial and other aid to anti-Allende actions in mid-October 1971, highly reliable intelligence sources said yesterday.

The administration directive, characterized by one insider as an order to "get a little rougher," resulted in direct CIA involvement, six weeks later, in the first large-scale middle-class demonstrations against the Allende regime. Allende was overthrown last September

in a coup d'etat in which he lost his life.

The street demonstrations, known as the "March of the Empty Pots," led to a series of violent clashes between supporters and opponents of Allende's Marxist coalition government.

The Times' sources were unable to explain why the administration chose that October to step up its clandestine activities against Allende, but the following factors were cited in interviews:

- In late September, 1971, the Chilean government announced that it would not pay compensation or nationalize American copper

assets, a step that threatened to cost two major corporations more than \$500 million.

- A change in ambassadors took place on Oct. 12, 1971, with Edward M. Korry, a Kennedy administration appointee, being replaced by Nathaniel M. Davis, a career diplomat who was experienced in Soviet affairs.

- A series of intelligence reports relayed from the United States mission in Santiago to Washington included allegations that Cuban arms were being smuggled to Chilean civilians; also that Soviet technicians, contrary to Allende's public assurances, had been sent to investigate the research and

techniques of the American corporations at the copper mines.

"It was a series of a lot of little things," a first-hand source recalled. "Signs that the leftists in the Allende government were in the ascendency."

According to administration sources with first-hand knowledge, the change in American clandestine policies toward the Allende government was communicated to Davis shortly after his arrival in Chile on October 13, 1971. Davis, who was reassigned to the State Department late last year, refused to comment yesterday.

One administration official with first-hand knowledge of

the events in Chile summarized the message sent to Ambassador Davis as saying, in effect, "From now on you may aid the opposition by any means possible." Another source said simply that the ambassador had been told to "get a little rougher."

All the CIA's activities in Chile were conducted under the direct authority and supervision of Ambassador Davis, the Times' sources said.

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