

Most Parties in Chile Find C.I.A. a Useful Target

By MALCOLM W. BROWNE
Special to The New York Times

SANTIAGO, Chile, Dec. 16—The United States Central Intelligence Agency has become nearly as potent a political target in Chile as was the Communist party in the United States during the era of the late Joseph R. McCarthy.

To impute a link between a political rival and the United States Government, especially the C.I.A., has become a tactic used by virtually every political party in Chile.

In past years, allegations of agency penetration into Chilean political affairs were made principally by Chile's Communist party and other major parties of the far left.

High Officials Called

Communists and Socialists charged, for example, that the left-of-center Christian Democratic Party came to power in 1964 largely because of financial and political support by the agency. In recent months, however, the hunt for real or imaginary American spies has been joined by the center and right as well as the far left.

Two weeks ago the Chilean Senate was called into closed session for two days to study charges that the C.I.A. had engineered an attempted military coup on Oct. 21. Significantly, the charge was brought not by one of the Marxist senators but by Renán Fuentealba, former

president of the governing Christian Democratic Party.

The Ministers of Foreign Relations, Defense and Interior were among the officials called to testify.

Government leaders reportedly told the Senate that there was no evidence to support the contention that the C.I.A. had backed the abortive uprising by the army's garrison here.

The hearings brought little or no substantial evidence to light, according to various participants. Mr. Fuentealba based his charge mainly on the fact that the United States Ambassador to Chile, Edward M. Korry, was absent from the country for several months and was away at the time of the uprising. The Senator suggested that this implied that Mr. Korry had known the uprising was coming and wished to divert suspicion from himself.

The Marxist parties readily accepted the charge as true, but denounced Senator Fuentealba as a "C.I.A. puppet" himself.

"[Senator] Fuentealba is not acting on his own," a Socialist politician said. He added, "after all, he was Frei's campaign manager, and he's still at the center of his party," referring to President Eduardo Frei Montalva. He continued:

"This is a smokescreen. The Christian Democrats want to make it seem that they are tough on the C.I.A., but, in fact, they intend to go on feeding quietly at the C.I.A. trough. They want it both ways—they

need leftist support and imperialist money."

A strikingly similar analysis was offered by members of Chile's conservative and right-wing parties.

In a Senate speech, Senator Pedro Ibáñez of the Conservative National party discounted current charges of C.I.A. intervention, but attacked both the Christian Democrats and the United States.

U. S. Ambassador Accused

Mr. Ibáñez charged that Ralph Dungan, former United States Ambassador to Chile, had abused his post by openly supporting the Christian Democratic Party. Referring to all Chilean political parties other than his own, Mr. Ibáñez said:

"Those other parties accept and even stimulate foreign intervention when it favors their own political designs, and only express opposition when it runs counter to their interests."

"The intervention of Ambassador Dungan," Senator Ibáñez

continued, "therefore was accorded the complicity of silence on the part of the Government.

It was the same when some time thereafter the Soviet armed intervention in Czechoslovakia was accorded the specific support of the Chilean Communist Party."

The Senate investigation probably will be dropped because of the lack of tangible evidence. A somewhat similar Senate investigation earlier this year, into charges that the Peace Corps was spying in Chile, also apparently has been dropped. But Chile's presidential election is scheduled next September, and the campaign is already fully under way.

For various reasons, each of Chile's five major parties stands to profit by accusing the others of having clandestine ties to the United States. It seems certain, therefore, that the C.I.A. will remain a lively campaign topic.