Geneen Concedes I.T.T. Fund Offer To Block Allende

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By EILEEN SHANAHAN Special to The New York Time

WASHINGTON, April 2-Harold S. Geneen, chairman of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, said today that he did not recall having offered a "substantial" sum of money to the Central Intelligence Agency in 1970 to help prevent the election of Salvador Allende Gossens as President of Chile.

But Mr. Geneen told a Senate subcommittee that, since he had "no recollection to the contrary," he would accept the testimony of William V. Broe, a C.I.A. official who said he had been offered the money in 1970. At the time, Mr. Broe was the head of the intelligence agency's clandestine operations in Latin America.

Mr. Geneen testified about the events of 1970 and 1971 before the subcommittee on multinational corporations of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He was the final witness in the first phase of

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the subcommittee's inquiry into the actions of these large companies, which operate all over the world, and the extent to which they may influence United States foreign policy.

Mr. Geneen said that, assuming he did make the offer of cash to Mr. Broe, it was probably an "emotional reaction" to learning from their conversation that the United States was planning no action to attempt to defeat Dr. Allende, who is a Marxist, and who had campaigned on a platform of nationalization of basic industries.

Mr. Geneen said that the hands-off policy of the United States in 1970 represented a reversal of a policy dating back 14 years-"the policy to maintain a democratic government in Chile," through large-scale economic aid and in other ways. He said he was particularly upset because he, with other American businessmen, had

American businessmen, had been encouraged to invest in Chile as part of the United



The New York Time: Harold S. Geneen, head of I.T.T., before the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee yesterday.

States Government's program of helping to develop the coun-try and keep it democratic.

try and keep it democratic. What he heard from Mr. Broe when they met in July, 1970, "was different from anything business had heard before," Mr. Geneen said.

Action Defended

Mr. Geneen defended his action in going to the C.I.A. to discuss the election in Chile and confirmed that it was John A. McCone, a former head of the intelligence agency and now a director of I.T.T., who had first suggested this to him. Mr. Geneen said he saw nothing improper in an Amer-ican corporation dealing with

ican corporation dealing with the C.I.A. since it was part of the Government and any com-pany had the right to "petition the Government" on behalf of its own interests.

Its own interests. Senator Frank Church, Dem-ocrat of Idaho, asked why Mr. Geneen went to the intelligence agency if it was only "petition-ing" the Government. Mr. Geneen replied, "I think of them as coupliars of good

Mr. Geneen replied, "I think of them as suppliers of good information." He said his basic mission had been to find out what the Government thought about the situation in Chile. Senator Charles H Percy

Senator Charles H. Percy, Republican of Illinois, asked why Mr. Geneen thought the agency had designated Mr. Broe to talk to I.T.T. officials when he was in charge of cover operations if the purpose of the talks was merely informa-tion tion.