

Chile Sends Envoy To United Nations To Explain Coup

From News Dispatches

SANTIAGO, Oct. 4—Chilean Foreign Minister Adm. Ismael Huerta flew to New York today to tell the U.N. General Assembly why the Chilean armed forces seized power in last month's bloody coup which led to the death of left-wing President Salvador Allende.

"I am very calm, in spite of knowing that a very intense unfavorable climate against the government of Chile exists in the United Nations," Adm. Huerta said.

He said he would probably meet U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in New York and talk with private bankers and executives of international financial organizations. There have been reports that these institutions, which refused to provide credit to the socialist-led government of Allende, have offered new credit to the military junta now governing the country.

Before leaving Chile, Adm. Huerta discussed with reporters the expressions of concern by many countries about the thousands of prisoners taken by junta forces after the coup Sept. 11.

The foreign minister mentioned specifically a charge by the Soviet delegate to the United Nations that Communist Party leader Luis Corvalan, arrested last Friday, would be summarily executed.

Adm. Huerta said that Corvalan, 57, was in "a perfect state of health" and "enjoying excellent treatment." The junta has said Corvalan will be tried for treason by a military tribunal.

Britain, France and Romania said today that they had made representations to the Chilean government and the United Nations concerning Corvalan's well-being.

Meanwhile, Agence France-Presse reported from Concepcion, 300 miles south of here, that a police spokesman said about 600 Chilean and foreign "extremists" were arrested in recent police raids. He said large quantities of arms, explosives and radio equipment were seized in the raids.

The junta announced that two suspected leftists were shot trying to escape from an army barracks in Temuco, 400 miles south of Santiago. Authorities also said a man who was caught trying to steal a bicycle and then took a child hostage was also shot in a small town north of here.

Frank Teruggi, 25, the American student whose body was identified in the morgue here yesterday, was held overnight at the stadium but released alive on Sept. 22. The officer said the bullet wounds in Teruggi's body were made by a smaller caliber gun than those used by the Chilean armed forces.

The U.S. embassy said that an autopsy would be performed to determine the cause of death.

[Teruggi's roommate, David Hathaway, 23, who was arrested with him, said in Seattle that the dead student sympathized with the Allende government "but never participated in making statements at demonstrations or anything of that nature." Hathaway was released from the National Stadium last week.]

Kissinger Denies

U.S. Effect on Chile

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has disputed suggestions that hostile United States economic policies, such as cutting off credit, led to the overthrow of the Allende government in Chile by creating fiscal chaos.

He also explained Washington's initial silence about the coup, and about the death of Chilean President Salvador Allende, as the result of "total confusion" and an excess of caution.

In censored closed-door testimony on his nomination released today, Kissinger told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sept. 17 that "It was the policies of the Allende government, its insistence on forcing the pace beyond what the traffic would bear, much more than our policies, that contributed to other economic chaos."

Allende's policies disregarded World Bank warnings that credit would not be extended if countries expropriate foreign investments without compensation "or if the economic policies of the country do not make it a good credit risk," Kissinger said.

With regard to Washington's response to the coup, Kissinger said, "When any crisis occurs, there is total confusion even in the White House."

In Chile's case, he added, the United States did not make a conscious decision to remain neutral immediately after the coup. When the White House Special Action Group met on the morning of the coup, he stated, the only decisions made were "holding decisions" to order American naval forces away from the Chilean coast and to say nothing that would indicate "either support or opposition—that we would avoid what we had done in Brazil in 1963 where we rushed out by recognizing the government."

"When we make these decisions we tend to get very literally applied," he declared, "so everyone was afraid even to express sorrow at the personal fate of Allende, which we rectified the next morning."

The junta also announced the execution by firing squad last night of rural guerrilla leader Jose Gregorio Liendo, widely known as Comandante Pepe. The junta said he had been sentenced by a court martial on several charges, including participation in an attack on a police unit the day after the coup.

Comandante Pepe headed peasant groups that took over large estates in southern Chile and fought off efforts to retake them for the original owners.

The army colonel in charge of the prison camp at the National Stadium said that