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## U.S.-CHILEAN TIES CALLED STRAINED

### Washington Officials Blame Deterioration on Disputes Over Human Rights

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 18 — Administration officials say that United States relations with Chile have deteriorated in recent weeks, mainly because of disputes over human-rights issues.

Last Thursday the Government of President Augusto Pinochet handed Ambassador David H. Popper a note protesting the affirmative United States vote in the United Nations Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Committee on a resolution calling for protection of human rights in Chile.

The note expressed "surprise and disappointment" over the vote, the officials said.

This, according to the American officials, was only the latest in a series of incidents marking a deterioration of relations.

#### U. S. Voices Displeasure

Previously the United States expressed sharp displeasure with Chile for voting, in committee, in favor of an anti-Zionist resolution in the United Nations General Assembly. In the final voting in the Assembly last week the Chilean delegate, on instructions from General Pinochet, abstained.

The officials remarked that Chile has so far failed to cooperate this year with investigations of alleged human-rights violations planned by the United Nations and by the Organization of American States.

Last summer Deputy Secretary of State Robert S. Ingersoll chided a high-ranking Chilean Foreign Ministry official for General Pinochet's last-minute decision to refuse entry to an investigatory team of the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

Since then the Administration has been disturbed by the prospect that Chile wishes to play host to the organization of American States general assembly next spring without first responding to the demands of the international community for a proper human-rights inquiry.

#### Aid to Chile Dropped

The Administration position on the human-rights question was underlined last month when President Ford sent his annual security-assistance request to Congress. For the first time, Chile was excluded from the military-assistance proposal.

An American official pointed out that the security-assistance proposal calls for military training aid to 15 Latin American and Caribbean countries and said, "This makes the omission noteworthy."

Previous American military aid to Chile was accorded primarily to help maintain a balance of forces between Chile and Peru. The two countries have disputed a large and strategically vital coastal area since the war of the Pacific from 1819 to '83.

In the Administration view, the military leadership that seized power under General Pinochet in September 1973 has been insensitive to world opinion regarding allegations of torture and indiscriminate killing of political prisoners over the last two years. According to Administration estimates Chile still holds about 5,000 political prisoners.

"They are very isolated at this point," a United States official said of the Chilean Government.

Asked to characterize the current state of affairs between the United States and Chile, a high-ranking State Department official said, "They are strained relations."

Manuel Trucco, the Chilean ambassador to the United States, rejected the suggestion that relations had deteriorated. But in a telephone interview he said: "We have a lot to study."

Mr. Trucco said of the American vote in the United Nations committee: "We are perplexed by the vote and the way it happened."