A Plot to Stop Chile's Allende



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S ECRET documents show that International Telephone and Telegraph maneuvered at the at the highest levels of the United States government to stop the 1970 election of leftist Chilean President Salvador Allende.

The papers, which escaped the recent shredding process by ITT, show that the company dealt regularly with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and at one point reveal the considered triggering of a military coup to head off Allende's election.

The plot (which is reported in detail in a special article on Page 1) is also spelled out in a confidential telex, dated September 29, 1970, to ITT's President Harold S. Geneen from one of his vice president's, E. J. Gerrity. Here is Gerrity's description of the plot:

"1-Banks should not renew credit or should delay in doing so.

"2—Companies should drag their feet in sending money, making deliveries, in shipping spare parts, etc.

"3—Savings and loan companies there are in trouble. If pressure were applied, they would have to shut their doors, thereby creating pressure.

"4—We should withdraw all technical help and should not promise any technical assistance in the future. Companies in a

position to do so should close their doors.

"5-A list of companies was provided, and it was suggested that we approach them as indicated. I was told that of all the companies involved, ours alone had been responsive and understood the problem. The visitor (evidently the CIA's William Broe) added that money was not a problem. He indicated that certain steps were being taken but that he was looking for additional help aimed at inducing economic collapse."

NEXT day, Gerrity sent a memo to ITT's Washington office telling of advice from an anti-Allende source in Chile

to "keep cool, don't rock the boat, we are making progress."

"This is in direct contrast to what Broe recommended," the memo says. "I will call you later to discuss HSG's (ITT President Harold S. Geneen) reaction to my telex in some detail. He agrees with me that Broe's suggestions are not workable. However, he suggests that we be very discreet in handling Broe."

Footnote: A CIA spokesman would to acknowledge Broe's identity. We had to verify this from other inside sources. At this writing, ITT hasn't responded to our questions.