

Fuller version of this column, including more details of Davis report on Chile, filed CIA 28 Mar 72.

Merry-Go-Round

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ITT Still Hoping To Oust Allende



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Jack Anderson

ANY HOPE International Telephone and Telegraph (ITT) may have of ousting Chile's President Salvador Allende; in the view of American Ambassador Nathaniel Davis, is unrealistic.

In a secret cable to the State Department, Davis reported that "prospects of military intervention for the foreseeable future are extremely small.

"It is held that military will turn blind eye to virtually any Constitutional abuse, and Allende is smart enough to avoid abuse so flagrant as to force open that blind eye."

ITT hoped for military intervention in 1970 to block Allende's election. We have published confidential memos, which reveal the giant conglomerate was prepared to spend millions promoting economic collapse in Chile to force a military coup.

The memos show that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) cooperated with ITT in planning this economic sabotage but that other American corporations such as General Motors and Ford would take no part in the scheme. The memos also blame the State Department for failing to take a tougher stand against Allende.

Inside sources say that ITT, in order to protect its investments in Chile from Allende's Marxist policies, has continued to explore the prospects of removing Allende from power.

Ambassador Davis, however, sees little likelihood of this.

WITH annual sales around \$7.5 billion and holdings in 67 countries, ITT is a veritable corporate nation. It has built an empire upon which the sun never sets.

ITT directs its own intelligence operations, security system and foreign service. It deals with foreign governments at the highest levels — often through former political leaders, cabinet ministers and intelligence officers.

Among the world leaders who have turned up in ITT's corporate hierarchy are Paul Henri Spaak, former Belgian Prime Minister; Trygve Lie, the late U.N. Secretary-General; and John McCone, the former chief of our own Central Intelligence Agency.

Twice a month, ITT's managers gather alternately in New York City and Brussels to plan high strategy. Five of the top managers draw higher pay than President Nixon's \$200,000-a-year salary. And ITT's panjandrum, Harold Geneen, collects the highest salary in the world, \$766,755 a year.

These corporate rulers, working through McCone's inside contacts were able to enlist the CIA in an abortive plot to block Allende's election and, thus, interfere in Chile's free election process. This illustrates the relationship that has grown up between ITT and the Nixon Administration.