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By GEORGE GEDDA

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - The United States was on the defensive Tuesday as foreign ministers of the Organization American States opened a 10-day general assembly meeting.

OAS Secretary General Galo Plaza opened the meeting at the Pan American Union with a criticism of U.S. Latin American policy. In subsequent days, the meeting is expected to produce charges by both Chile and Ecuador that the United States has violated the OAS charter.

Plaza, declaring there is widespread concern over the state of inter-American cooperation, called for a concrete definition of American policy toward the hemispheric community.

"The absence of such a definition has adversely affected the conduct of inter-American relations," Plaza said.

He said the United States is not cooperating fully in Latin America's economic and social development and indicated his belief that the dispersal of U.S. aid is too often influenced by political considerations.

A 37-point agenda awaited action by the ministers but most of the attention was centered on Chile's attitude toward insinuations that the United States sought to block the 1970 election of President Salvador Allende.

Anibal Palma, undersecretary for foreign affairs and chief of Chile's delegation to the meeting, said Chile will accuse the United States of violating an OAS charter provision which prohibits intervention in the internal or external affairs of any state.

Palma said he will base the allegation on documents released last month by columnist Jack Anderson and attributed to officials of the International Telephone & Telegraph Corp., which has multimillion-dollar holdings in Chile.

The documents indicate that ITT made repeated efforts to win U.S. backing for a campaign to prevent Allende's installation as president in November 1970.

Palma, who will outline Chile's position in an address to the assembly on Friday, said in an interview that there is nothing in the memoranda which indicates that any warning was given to ITT by U.S. officials that the firm's activities were a violation of the OAS charter.

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The State Department has denied the U.S. engaged in any improper activities.

It is reliably reported also that Ecuador will use the assembly meeting as a forum for renewing accusations that the United States is engaging in economic coercion against Ecuador in the prolonged fishing-rights dispute between the two nations.

In retaliation for Ecuador's series of seizures of U.S. fishing vessels, the Congress recently approved an amendment cutting off aid to Ecuador.

Although the State Department, citing overriding national interests, decided not to suspend aid, Ecuador nonetheless is expected to allege that the amendment constitutes a violation of the OAS charter, which prohibits the use of coercive measures to force the sovereign will of another state.

Secretary of State William P. Rogers, who is heading the U.S. delegation, met privately Tuesday with Ecuadorean foreign minister Jose A. Lucio Paredes. Details of the meeting were not disclosed.

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