MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

~~SECRET/EYES ONLY~~   WASHINGTON

23 March 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Frank Chapin

SUBJECT: Agenda Items for the 40 Committee Meeting, 25 March 1970

Item 1:   Chile - Political Action Related to 1970 Presidential Election

You will recall that in April 1969 the Committee reviewed a final report on an election operation designed to influence the outcome of the March congressional elections in Chile. At that time, you asked if any action should be taken with regard to the September 1970 Chile presidential election.

This paper reflects a State/CIA consensus that the U.S. should not support any of the three presidential candidates (Alessandri, Allende or Tomic) but that spoiling operations should be undertaken against the Popular Unity (UP) electoral front, a coalition of Communists, Socialists and leftists supporting Allende.

The current political situation and alignments are described in some detail and approval is sought to proceed with the following two spoiling operations against the UP:

1.   One operation involves the continued and expanded use of a propaganda mechanism which proved effective and secure during the March 1969 elections. This is a bona fide publicity firm ████████████████ which has access to some of the more prominent radio and press outlets in the country. In addition to producing posters, radio and newspaper ads and leaflets directed against the UP, a bi-weekly newsletter will be mailed to 2,200 journalists, academicians, politicians, labor leaders and other influential opinion makers.

2.   The other operation involves support to certain individuals in the Democratic Radical Party (PDR) in efforts to reduce the number of votes which the Radical Party (PR) can deliver in support of the UP. The PDR is comprised of moderates who broke with the PR in July 1969 when the PR hierarchy decided to align with the Communists and Socialists in the UP. ████████

SANITIZED
PER 3.3(b)(1)

DECLASSIFIED
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By WLH NARA, Date 10/25/10
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