

Chile's middle class led coup, editor says

By MELODY WARD
Of the Emerald

The Chilean middle class, not the CIA or multi-national corporations, demanded the 1973 military overthrow of Salvador Allende's socialist government, says Chilean newspaper editor Eugenio Calcagno.

Calcagno spoke to the International Journalism class about the Chilean press and later discussed current present Chilean politics.

"There's been a great deal of speculation about foreign interference, but what the average American should understand is that what took place was based exclusively upon the Chilean middle class, independent of the army," he said.

Women were very instrumental in bringing about the coup, Calcagno claimed. "The women in our country constitute a rather special group," he explained. "They have strong personalities and the ability to face adverse circumstances that would eliminate the family group."

Calcagno said that under Allende, a concerted effort was made to "break the family unit" by undermining tradition, promising money, appealing to adolescents and use of government-instigated terrorist acts.

"They tried to gain the adolescent population and corrupt them politically and morally," he said, adding that one particular aspect of that "corruption" was promoting prostitution among young women.

Just before the coup, inflation rate was 1,000 percent according to Central Bank of Chile statistics, Calcagno said. He blamed Allende for the present economic problems in Chile.

"During the Allende years we

Local forum may become permanent

Meetings and workshops that generated local support from neighborhood groups and city leaders two months ago may be returning, and, according to Bob Groth of the Community Development Library, might become permanent citizens' groups.

The meetings, called the Community Forum Series, were held during February and March as a part of the Community Development Library's continuing schedule of workshops and lectures on alternative solutions to community problems.

The series, which included panel discussions on community growth management, economic prospects for downtown Eugene and alternative energy uses, generated so much attention in the city that a new and more permanent group structure may be established, Groth says.

Those groups, he says, will discuss specific issues brought out during the Community Forum Series. The issues could range from establishing neighborhood green houses to building model projects.

The Community Development Library is a research organization that specializes in assisting neighborhood associations in development and implementation of community-based economic projects, self-help programs, citizen planning and forum groups.

The meeting to establish the continuing forum groups will be held tonight at 7:30 in the Francis Willard Community School, 2855 Lincoln St.

Oregon Daily Emerald

had to bear total chaos," he said. "In the economic field we had total inflation, and moral standards were lost. More than 800 foreign companies had to leave the country."

Allende was democratically elected by a narrow plurality on a socialist platform which favored nationalization of Chilean industry. Charles Brody, director of the National Chile Legislative Center, said in a telephone interview Wednesday that a proposal to nationalize the copper industry passed the Chilean Congress

unanimously.

But Calcagno maintained that Allende did not possess a majority in the Chilean congress.

"He found such resistance to his decrees that he secretly was planning a coup against Congress," Calcagno said.

Though Calcagno said it is difficult to establish whether or not the CIA and multi-national corporations were involved in the coup, Brody stated that such involvement is now public record.

"The 1,000 percent inflation was caused mainly by the

Nixon-CIA sabotage of the Chilean economy and the reduction of inflation by the junta (military government) has been achieved through 'shock' treatment, which is causing the Chilean people mass unemployment and mass malnutrition that approaches starvation for over two million people," Brody stated.

Calcagno said that there are no longer any political prisoners held in Chile.

"We had political prisoners because there were factions and people that had to be deprived of

their liberty due to the change of government," he said. "But this situation ended about two months ago when the government decreed the liberty of the last 246 prisoners."

Calcagno said that several restrictive measures have been eliminated recently, including a mandatory curfew.

United States Sen. Edward Kennedy is expected to make a major policy statement regarding Chile in the Senate sometime today, according to NCLC's Brody.

The EMU Cultural Forum

Proudly Presents the

EIGHTH ANNUAL WILLAMETTE VALLEY FOLK FESTIVAL



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday May 4

12:15 Runnin' Wild
12:45 Tom Maddron
1:30 Special Guest: Woody Harris
2:15 **HEADLINER:** Bryan Bowers
4:00 Na Ceoltoire
4:45 Kevin McGraw

Friday May 5

11:30 Dennis Froelich
12:15 Prince Gabriel's Fleet
1:00 Mugwart Revellers
1:45 X
2:30 Northern Broadcasters
3:15 Greg Fields
4:00 **HEADLINER:** Utah Phillips
5:00 Johnny McDonald
8:00 Barndance in the EMU
Ballroom Percy Hilo, Caller

Saturday May 6

12:00 Fiddlin' Earl Willis
12:45 High Mountain Ramblers
1:30 John Roman
2:15 Ragtime Millionaires
3:00 **HEADLINERS:** Benny Thomasson & Dick Barrett
4:00 Irish Music Workshop
4:45 Tumulo String Band

WORKSHOPS:

Bryan Bowers, *The Care and Feeding of the Autoharp*, May 5
Utah Phillips, *Labor Music of the Northwest*, May 6
Benny Thomasson & Dick Barrett, *Texas Style Fiddling*, May 6
Check Handouts or with Suite 2 EMU for Time and Place

FREE ADMISSION

EAST LAWN OF THE EMU
In case of rain to be held in EMU Ballroom