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Objet: KISSINGER AND CHILE: THE DECLASSIFIED RECORD ON REGIME CHANGE
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KISSINGER AND CHILE: THE DECLASSIFIED RECORD ON REGIME CHANGE

Kissinger pressed Nixon to overthrow the democratically elected Allende government because his "model" effect can be insidious," documents show

On 40th anniversary of coup, Archive posts top ten documents on Kissinger's role in undermining democracy, supporting military dictatorship in Chile

Kissinger overruled aides on military regime's human rights atrocities; told Pinochet in 1976: "We want to help, not undermine you. You did a great service to the West in overthrowing Allende."

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Washington, D.C., September 11, 2013 -- Henry Kissinger urged President Richard Nixon to overthrow the democratically elected Allende government in Chile because his "model" effect can be insidious," according to documents posted today by the National Security Archive. The coup against Allende occurred on this date 40 years ago. The posted records spotlight Kissinger's role as the principal policy architect of U.S. efforts to oust the Chilean leader, and assist in the consolidation of the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile.

The documents, which include transcripts of Kissinger's "telcons" -- telephone conversations -- that were never shown to the special Senate Committee chaired by Senator Frank Church in the mid 1970s, provide key details about the arguments, decisions, and operations Kissinger made and supervised during his tenure as national security adviser and secretary of state.

"These documents provide the verdict of history on Kissinger's singular contribution to the denouement of democracy and rise of dictatorship in Chile," said Peter Kornbluh who directs the Chile Documentation Project at the National Security Archive. "They are the evidence of his accountability for the events of forty years ago."

Today's posting includes a Kissinger "telcon" with Nixon that records their first conversation after the coup. During the conversation Kissinger tells Nixon that the U.S. had "helped" the coup. "[Word omitted] created the conditions as best as possible." When Nixon complained about the "liberal crap" in the media about Allende's overthrow, Kissinger advised him: "In the Eisenhower period, we would be heroes."

Check out today's posting at the National Security Archive website - <http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB437/>

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