

March 25, 1941

Chile. Time Magazine Article

FDR Speech File

1396

~~Statement by the President to the Press Conference~~
today.

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P. I have got ~~many things~~ for you today. The first thing I am going to speak about is the one I feel most deeply about. I am very sorry to get word from the State Department ~~a little while ago~~ that the President of Chile has died. ~~It~~ ^{that} brings up a disagreeable fact that the ^{Government of the} United States has been forced to apologize to the ^{Government of} Chile for an article written in Time magazine -- a disgusting lie which appeared in that ^{magazine} paper. It was of course immediately cabled to Chile. It ~~had~~ arrived at the time that the president had left office in a very ill condition, and we are informed -- ~~we are informed~~ by our Ambassador that this article was a notable contribution to Nazi propoganda against the United States. It is being widely used by the Nazi, Fascist and Falangist press ~~playing it up big~~. The ^{United States} American Ambassador to Chile shares wholeheartedly in the general indignation and disgust. ~~and goes~~ ^{He reports} on to say to the Secretary of State ~~that~~ ^{that} this is another illustration of ~~how~~ how some American papers and writers by such methods are stocking the arsenals of propoganda of the Nazis to be used against us.

H. ^{of Chile} The president is now dead. ^{Very deeply sorry} The episode ^{of the article} will not be easily forgotten in Chile, and I wish to take this opportunity, as President ^{of the United States}, to express the deep regret of the Administration and the American people to the people of Chile; ~~and~~ especially to the family of the late president.

~~If you want a copy of that quote verbatim, you can have it.~~

~~It is the first time that I have had to go to that length in the last eight and a half years; but it was due.~~

Dorothy Brady

FOR THE PRESS

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOVEMBER 25, 1941

Statement by the President to the Press Conference today:

The first thing I am going to speak about is the one I feel most deeply about.

I am very sorry to get word from the State Department that the President of Chile has died. That brings up a disagreeable fact — that the Government of the United States has been forced to apologize to the Government of Chile for an article written in Time magazine — a disgusting lie which appeared in that magazine.

It was of course immediately cabled to Chile. It arrived at the time that the President had left office in a very ill condition, and we are informed by our Ambassador that this article was a notable contribution to Nazi propaganda against the United States.

It is being widely used by the Nazi, Fascist and Falangist press. The United States Ambassador to Chile shares wholeheartedly in the general indignation and disgust. He reports to the Secretary of State that this is another illustration of how some American papers and writers by such methods are stocking the arsenals of propaganda of the Nazis to be used against us.

The President of Chile is now dead. I am deeply sorry.

The episode of the article will not be easily forgotten in Chile.

I wish to take this opportunity, as President of the United States, to express the deep regret of the Administration and the American people to the people of Chile; especially to the family of the late President.

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