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SUBCOMMITTEE TO PROBE IT&T-CIA ADVENTURES IN CHILE

GORDON PETERSON: When the Senate Judiciary Committee ended its investigation of IT&T last May, company officials might have hoped that their congressional troubles were over. But Eyewitness News Capitol Hill correspondent Carolyn Lewis reports that that just isn't so. (FILM REPORT)

CAROLYN LEWIS: Top IT&T officials will be subpoenaed by a subcommittee of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate early in February. The subject - IT&T's involvement in the political fortunes of Chile's Marxist president, Salvadore Allende. The subcommittee's staff is diving into the background of charges first made public in Jack Anderson's syndicated column. Anderson charges that in 1970, IT&T tried to block the inauguration of Allende as the elected President of Chile.

IT&T had major holdings in that country. Anderson claims that company officials worked with the CIA to prevent Allende from taking office. Subcommittee counsel Jerry Levenson says his investigations have unearthed evidence that goes substantially beyond the charges laid by Jack Anderson. He says the committee will take testimony from a former ambassador of Chile and from officials of other American companies.

Levenson says it is likely that the hearings will reveal that other companies, in concert with the CIA, have been involved in similar adventures in other foreign countries. The subcommittee, headed by Idaho Democrat Frank Church, plans to draw up legislation that would prevent American businesses from future involvement in foreign politics.

Carolyn Lewis, Eyewitness News.