

## Chile Timeline

Campaign 1970	Christian Democrats nominate leftist, ensuring centrist support for Alessandri; Alessandri's television debate appearance reinforces impression of age (74); Allende promises collegial government within UP
September 4, 1970	Allende wins election with 36.3% of vote; Alessandri gets 35%; Radomiro Tomic gets 27.8%
October 22, 1970	General René Schneider wounded in botched kidnapping; later dies
October 25, 1970	Congress confirms Allende, 153-35
November 2, 1970	Allende takes office
January 9, 1971	Statute of Guarantees added to Constitution
March 4, 1971	Municipal elections reveal countrywide split between UP and Opposition (49.7% vs. 48%)
May 10, 1971	CD's announce policy of "constructive opposition"
May 21, 1971	Allende's "Chilean Way" speech offers nationalization of large enterprises, maintenance of private small and medium-size businesses; respect for rule of law
June-July 1971	CD-UP relationship sours; "government by legerdemain"
June 8, 1971	Former Vice President Edmundo Pérez Zújovic murdered by leftist extremists of Vanguardia Organizada del Pueblo; suspects subsequently killed in shoot-out
July 11, 1971	Congress unanimously approves UP proposal for nationalization of copper companies
July 18, 1971	By-election in Valparaíso; CD and UP essentially tie; UP has about 50% of electorate
July 28, 1971	Chilean government declares that copper companies' profits have been "excessive"; no compensation will be paid for their expropriation
September 10, 1971	Fidel Castro begins 10-day visit
September 22, 1971	Christian Democrats formally break with UP
November 1971	Chile suspends intergovernmental debt payments
December 1971	Congress impeaches Interior Minister Tohá for failing to investigate MIR (Movement of the Revolutionary Left)
December 1, 1971	March of Empty Pots; 5,000 women dispersed with tear gas; street skirmishes between leftist and rightist youth
December 2, 1971	Allende declares state of emergency in Santiago province
December 3, 1971	Regional military commander, General Augusto Pinochet, imposes curfew
1972-1973	Inflation begins; shortages become more pronounced; violence increases, especially in chaotic countryside where MIR was seizing land Emergence of <i>focos</i> , <i>campamentos</i> , and <i>cordones</i> , where police did not go Investment falls, deficit balloons to 40% of government spending in 1972
January 1972	Allende tries to move toward center but is thwarted by leftists within his own coalition; state development company buys private companies' shares; use of 1932 decree to requisition factories
January 6, 1972	Tohá suspended; reappointed to Defense; MIR credibly linked to Presidential Guard

January 16, 1972	Two UP defeats in by-elections
January 19, 1972	Nixon administration links debt repayment and expropriation; U.S. opposes multilateral development loans
January 28, 1972	Allende reshuffles cabinet
February 7, 1972	Allende proposes single UP list; CDs join forces with Nationalists; At UP conference, Socialists advocate attacking material base of opposition; Communists advocate suppression of MIR and dialogue with Christian Democrats
March 1972	Allende vetoes opposition legislation designed to regulate requisitions
May 1972	Generals warn that inflation and production declines jeopardize national defense
May 27, 1972	University Rector Edgardo Boeninger, a CD, is reelected after months of Marxist attempts to unseat him and continuous protests
May-June, 1972	Leftists allegedly rig elections for leadership of the CUT (workers' confederation)
June 2, 1972	Military Minister of Mining forced out by arm because he had been required to co-sign decrees of insistence
June 1972	Negotiations over nationalizations break down; polarization increases; constitutional solution seems increasingly unlikely
June 1972	Another UP leadership conference at Lo Curro Communist position on economic policy prevails; Vuskovic fired Too little, too late; economy continues to tank UP unwilling to impose austerity measures
July 15, 1972	CUT election results announced; Communists declared winner; No agreement with CDs
July 27, 1972	Congress impeaches Interior Minister del Canto after he supervises the illegal receipt of small arms from Cuba
August 21, 1972	Nation-wide strike against government by small businessmen Official attempts to open shops lead to street skirmishes State of emergency declared in Santiago
August 30, 1972	State of emergency in Concepción
September 2, 1972	Allende denounces foiled coup attempt
Oct.-Nov. 1972	Allende very sick for ten days; apparently suffers a heart attack
October 9, 1972	Partial truckers' strike begins
October 10, 1972	Vilarín arrested
October 11, 1972	Full-scale truckers' strike; joined by other guilds
October 19, 1972	Government requisitions last private wholesale distribution company
October 27, 1972	Tanks called out in Santiago to maintain order
October 31, 1972	Allende's cabinet resigns to give him a free hand Allende promulgates strict arms control law
November 2, 1972	Allende brings senior military officers into cabinet Prats is Minister of Interior; promises restoration of normality in four days
November 5, 1972	Truckers' strike ends; Prats promises no nationalization Martial law lifted in 21 provinces; Normality returns; expropriations slow, Papalera allowed to raise prices

Nov.-Dec. 1972	Allende travels to UN, USSR, elsewhere
December 16, 1973	Naval cadets at graduation ceremony boo Allende
December 1972	MAPU begins training with arms
January 10, 1973	Minister of Economy announces rationing system for 30 basic food items Opposition outraged; claims it will be used like Cuban rationing
January 30, 1973	Admiral Huerta resigns as Minister of Public Works in protest Education Minister Jorge Tapia announces unified national curriculum Catholic hierarchy and CDs go nuts For the first time, a large number of officers express public disagreement Minister agrees to "postpone" program
Jan-Feb 1973	Congressional campaign; limited violence; fairly clean Opposition theme is to gain 2/3 in both houses, override vetoes, impeach, and convict the president; essentially impossible UP claims it will win more than in 1970
March 4, 1973	Congressional elections; illiterates vote for first time Opposition wins 56%, but not enough to impeach Allende UP gains 2 seats in Senate and 6 in House; Radicals disappear Viewed as UP victory; in practice, offers no political solution Male vote splits 50-50; women vote heavily for opposition Eduardo Frei assumes presidency of Senate Allende moves toward center, but does not fully break with Altamirano or Ameyda CDs insist on definition of nationalization; threaten declaration of illegality; Military present Allende with fourteen conditions for continued participation
March 26, 1973	Supreme Court decries government illegalities
March 27, 1973	Military withdraws from cabinet
April-June 1973	Parties become less relevant Congress impeaches four Cabinet officers Gremios, unions, extremists, and military become key players Leftist paramilitary activity registers "quantum jump" Communists arm their militia; Eastern Bloc guns arrive Gremios consolidate organization and cultivate ties to military Leftist infiltration of armed services Coup plotting begins in earnest among general officers of the army Air Force last to go; becomes convinced in June Military carries out repeated arms searches against leftists
May 6, 1973	Patría y Libertad leader calls for new government Group active in arms running and links to armed forces Most leaders arrested or exiled during summer
May 15, 1973	Allende promulgates decree implementing the portions of the nationalization agreement he accepts
May 19, 1973	Copper workers strike against government
June 1973	Labor violence, street fights, bombings in Santiago, etc. Communist position changes to anticipating armed confrontation Allende speaks of "chess game" with military to buy time

Arming of workers and encouragement of People's Power provokes army  
Workers not armed or trained fast enough to win

June 9, 1973 Communist Ramona Parra brigade clashes with Air Force unit  
First open armed encounter between leftist extremists and military

June 27, 1973 Alejandrina Cox incident; Prats weakened

June 29, 1973 Attempted coup (*tancazo*)  
Allende makes ambiguous appeal to popular militias  
Workers do not rally in center of Santiago  
Main military leaders loyal  
Prats literally suppresses the coup single-handedly  
Workers seize factories; number taken over jumps from 282 to 526  
Workers take full control of *cordones* and expel CDs and police

June 30, 1973 General officers representing heads of all services meet; agree to draft memorandum for Allende outlining objections and conditions for remaining in government

July 2, 1973 Copper miners return to work; Inter-service memo presented to Allende, Prats, and Tohá; Comptroller refuses to register Allende's partial veto of nationalization law

July 3, 1973 Allende rejects military conditions; forms all-civilian cabinet

July 4, 1973 Pinochet changes contingency plans to more overt, aggressive strategy

July 10, 1973 Navy and Air Force heads begin coup planning  
Prats replaces Tohá as Defense Minister  
Allende vacillates on military issue

July 19, 1973 MIR and Patria y Libertad both call for armed conflict

July 25, 1973 Truckers launch new strike; government tries to break strike but fails after ten days

July 27, 1973 Allende's naval aide-de-camp killed  
CDs give Allende the same list the military does

July 30, 1973 Cuban vice prime minister and its secret police chief arrive in capital

August 3, 1973 CD and UP talks break down again

August 7, 1973 Mutinous plot in Navy reveals institutional corrosion

August 9, 1973 New cabinet with substantial military representation fails to end truckers' strike; successive ultimata from military

August 13, 1973 Patria y Libertad dynamites power line, blocking Allende's speech

August 17, 1973 Institutional crisis in Air Force over resignation of General/Minister Ruíz; Gustavo Leigh takes over as head of Air Force; Prats: a mediocre coup plotter replaced with a smart, highly ambitious one

August 21, 1973 Wives of officers protest in front of Prats' house

August 22, 1973 General officers, including Pinochet, declare loyalty to Prats  
Council of Generals convenes and votes Prats out  
Chamber of Deputies declares the government outside the law; vote against Allende is 81 to 45 in Chamber

August 23, 1973 Prats resigns as Defense Minister; Letelier appointed as Defense Minister; Pinochet takes over as head of armed forces; all officers deciding what to do -- act or be purged; Pinochet waits until all heads of services have lined up behind a coup

August 25, 1973 Patricio Alwyn calls for cabinet of 6+ military officers (“white coup”)  
 August 28, 1973 Allende’s eighth cabinet has 4 military officers  
 Officers indicate that agreement with CDs will forestall coup  
 Cardinal Silva also requests agreement  
 Almost total paralysis of economic activity in some parts of country  
 Council of Army Generals meets continuously; memos discuss coup  
 August 29, 1973 Army versus leftists; soldier killed; many arrests and daily arms searches  
 September 1973 Rightist sabotage  
 Crisis in Navy over who will be in command; Navy openly rebellious  
 Government devalues currency 40%  
 Executive Committee of UP declares itself in solidarity with naval mutineers  
 CDs vow to impeach all ministers; Shopkeepers strike in solidarity with truckers and professionals; Melees in Santiago, many wounded; Lots of coup plotting; *carabinero* generals enter coup plotting; Prats recommends Allende fire 5-6 generals; Allende announces that there is only enough flour for 3-4 days; Allende plans to call plebiscite on his remaining in office; speech set for 10th  
 September 7, 1973 Army (except Pinochet) endorses coup on 10th or 11th  
 Six-hour disastrous meeting between President and Merino  
 September 8, 1973 Merino endorses coup  
 September 9, 1973 Altamirano makes inflammatory speech; Junior *carabinero* generals favor coup; Merino, Leigh, and Pinochet all sign agreement to launch coup on 11th  
 September 10, 1973 Allende pushes speech back  
 September 11, 1973 Institutional coup d’etat  
 Navy seizes Valparaíso rapidly; Concepción falls by 9 a.m.  
 Military has disrupted leftist communication  
 Air Force requests Allende’s resignation and guarantee safe passage  
 Allende refuses to resign, but also refuses to call for revolution  
 Allende requests workers stay at their posts and be ready  
 Junta proclaims only return of institutionality; no class bias  
 Troops advance on La Moneda; several killed by leftist snipers  
 Carabineros split, but most refuse to fight for Allende  
 Some resistance within military, but not chain of command mostly intact  
 Navy offers president safe passage  
 Junta gives 11 a.m. deadline  
 Allende signals willingness to resign, but insists officers come to him;  
 Junta suggests Allende come to them at Ministry of Defense  
 Continuing negotiations over surrender fail  
 La Moneda bombed; tanks surround palace and fire tear gas, then invade  
 Allende kills himself (?); others leave, surrender, or are killed  
 Fighting at factories, universities, etc, especially Valparaíso  
 UP supporters and others taken to National Stadium  
 Martial law and strict curfew imposed; only scattered resistance  
 3,000-10,000 die; many of them executed  
 Hundreds murdered in National Stadium, where 7,000 detained

	Widespread repression but economic situation rapidly returns to normal 10,000 Chileans flee country claiming asylum						
1973-77	Consolidation of personalistic military rule under Pinochet						
1977-80	National and international acceptance of regime Public relations upgrade Links to Israel, Taiwan, U.S. and U.K. after conservative triumphs						
January 4, 1978	Economic meltdown in 1980, but recovery and strong performance after Pinochet orchestrates referendum against United Nations; 75% support Pinochet						
July 24, 1978	Gustavo Leigh is removed from junta; most Air Force generals resign in protest						
September 8, 1979	Non-aggression pact signed with Bolivia and Peru						
August 10, 1980	New Constitution promulgated; calls for plebiscite on return to civilian rule in 1988						
1988	Opposition unites to contest plebiscite Plebiscite held; reasonably fair despite some intimidation and fraud <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pinochet loses(55% to 43%); very surprised and enraged</li> <li>• Other services announce results</li> </ul>						
1989	Presidential campaign; opposition gets some key media time Opposition again able to unite behind single presidential candidate By now, threat of leftist violence or revolution has receded						
December 15, 1989	Opposition alliance, representing left and center, wins <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Patricio Alwyn:</td> <td>55%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hernán Buchi:</td> <td>29%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Francisco Javier Errázuriz:</td> <td>14%</td> </tr> </table>	Patricio Alwyn:	55%	Hernán Buchi:	29%	Francisco Javier Errázuriz:	14%
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	Pinochet remains Commander-in-Chief Most of economic model retained						
March 11, 1990	Pinochet's last day in office						
1990	Congressional elections						
1997	Pinochet retires from Army command; becomes Senator-for-Life						
1998	Pinochet arrested in Great Britain on orders of Spanish judge						