

CHILEAN NEWS

Organ of the "Anglo-Chilean Society"

32nd. Year, No.307

London, April, 1974

12, Devonshire Street, London, W1N 2DS



The Chilean Air Force recently purchased six of this type of Hawker Hunter, built by Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd., at Kingston-on-Thames

CELEBRATION OF CHILEAN AIR FORCE DAY:—

On March 21st., Chilean Air Force Day was celebrated at the United Service and Royal Aero Club, 116 Pall Mall, in the form of a reception, at which there were approximately 150 guests.

The newly arrived Air Attache, and Head of the Chilean Air Force Mission, Col. Juan Cerda, Madame Sara Arenas de Cerda, Wing Commander Carlos Martinez, Mrs. Alicia Campo de Martinez, Squadron Leader Lautaro Greenhill and Mrs. Olga Olsen de Greenhill received the guests, who were unanimous in expressing their congratulations and good wishes towards their distinguished hosts and hostesses.

DAME MARGOT FONTEYN DANCES IN SANTIAGO

The British prima ballerina, Dame Margot Fonteyn, received an enthusiastic welcome in Chile when she arrived by air on 29th January to give three performances in Santiago — together with Heinz Bosl of the Bavaria State Ballet — in aid of the National Reconstruction Fund established recently under Government auspices.

Dancing on each occasion to full houses at the Teatro Municipal, she conquered her Chilean audiences not only with the excellence of her art but also because her visit implied a desire to help the Chilean people in their hour of need for understanding and goodwill.

In appreciation of her outstanding services the Chilean Government awarded Dame Margot the Medal of Honour of the "Noble y Leal Ciudad de Santiago". The presentation was made at the Cousiño Palace before a distinguished gathering of members of the Government, Local Authorities and well known personalities in cultural and art circles.

The distinction referred to originated in an edict of King Charles Vth of Germany and Ist of Spain in 1552 or just over eleven years after the foundation of "Santiago del Nuevo Extremo" by the Spanish Captain don Pedro de Valdivia.

At the time of making the presentation, the Mayor of Santiago, Colonel Hernán Sepulveda also formally conferred on Dame Margot the freedom of the City of Santiago in further recognition of her friendly gesture towards the people of Chile.

SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:—

The Society congratulates the former scholarship holder for 1970, Dr. Hernán Quintana on having obtained his degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Cambridge University Institute of Astronomy. The title of the thesis submitted was "Neutron Stars and Elasticity in General Relativity".

Dr. Quintana, accompanied by his wife, left recently for Santiago. The last Scholarship holder from the Society, Mr. Herman Ingo

Fox, who studied at Imperial College in London for the academic year 1972/3 has completed his post graduate studies in soil mechanics and was awarded the M.Sc. degree. He is going on to Aachen, Germany, under a further scholarship to read for his Ph.D.

CHILEAN AMBASSADOR RECEIVED BY THE QUEEN

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II received H.E. the Chilean Ambassador Rear Admiral (R) Kaare Olsen, in audience on November 29th. last at Buckingham Palace, when he presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Chile to the Court of St. James. Madame Olsen had the honour of being received by the Queen.

H.E. was accompanied by the following members of the Chilean Embassy who were presented to Her Majesty:—

Vice-Admiral Oscar Buzeta (Naval Attaché)
Sr. Enrique Gomez (Minister-Counsellor)
Sr. Carlos Costa-Nora (Counsellor of Consular Affairs)
Sr. Fernando Cousiño (First Secretary Commercial Affairs)
Sr. Juan Enrique Aguirre C.V.O. (Second Secretary)

NEW ARRIVALS IN LONDON.—

The Committee takes this opportunity of welcoming the following members of the Chilean Diplomatic staff and Armed Forces who have arrived recently in this country:—

Don Gustavo Valdivieso and Mrs. Yolanda de Valdivieso Minister Counsellor of the Chilean Embassy, formerly "Director de la Direccion Consular" of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Santiago, who arrived in December last.

Don Alberto Besa, Minister Counsellor of the Chilean Embassy, and Mrs. Rebeca Polanco de Besa.

Captain Raúl Lopez, Naval Attaché and Head of Naval Mission, and Mrs. Julia Davenport de Lopez.

Col. Juan Cerda, Air Attaché and Head of Air Force Mission, and Mrs. Sara Arenas de Cerda.

Don Carlos Costa-Nora, Counsellor of Chilean Embassy for Consular affairs and Mrs Silvia Monti de Costa-Nora.

Don Jorge Navarrete, Cultural and Press Attache, and Mrs. Patricia Poblete de Navarrete.

Captain George H. Le May, Assistant Naval Attache and Deputy Chief of Naval Mission.

Lt. Commander Pablo Canovas, Chilean Navy, and Mrs Mariá Teresa Silva de Canovas.

Don Jorge Montero, Third Secretary, and Mrs Johanna Stegen de Montero.



Chilean Air Force Day Celebration—(left to right) Mrs Coulthard, Air Vice-Marshal Coulthard, RAF; (Ministry of Defence), Col. Juan Cerda, Chilean Air Attaché; Madame Cerda; & Wing Commander Carlos Martinez, Chilean Air Force. (Photo Erica)



Group taken at the celebration of Chilean Air Force Day, held at the United Service & Royal Aero Club, Pall Mall, London. (Left to right) H.E. The Chilean Ambassador; Madame Olsen; Col. Juan Cerda, Chilean Air Attaché; Madame Cerda and Wing Commander Carlos Martinez of the Chilean Air Force. (Photo Erica)

CHRISTMAS DRAW:-

This annual draw was made, as is now customary, during the Christmas Buffet Supper Party, the following being the Prizewinners:-

1st Prize £25. Mr. Roy H. Smith Ticket No. 7375
 2nd Prize £15. Mrs. C.L. Pountney Ticket No. 9442
 3rd Prize £10. Mrs. L.C. Vaughan Ticket No. 8100

Ten consolation prizes, value £1. each, were won by:-

Mrs. Barbara Santa Cruz Ticket No. 6855
 Mr. D.G. Mitchell Ticket No. 9357
 Mrs. Evelyn Beausire Ticket No. 719
 Mr. J.V. Sinden Ticket No. 7244
 Mr. Garry Payne Ticket No. 5265
 Mr. R.A.J. Barbary Ticket No. 8905
 Mr. C. Godfray Ticket No. 2958
 Mr. D. McKellar Ticket No. 5145
 Mr. G.D.C. Taylor Ticket No. 9505
 Miss Victoria Van Lawick Ticket No. 6866

The number of tickets sold was 4580, slightly fewer than last year. Last minute difficulties in getting tickets printed, also higher expenses, resulted in profit being down to £95.30 compared with £158.00 the previous year. It is hoped to get tickets printed earlier this year and into the hands of members sooner, in order to get better results.

NEW MEMBERS:-

The following new members have joined the Society since our last issue:-

H.E. The Chilean Ambassador	Life
Admiral (R) Kaare Olsen	Life
Madame Irene Hornsby de Olsen	Life
Captain George H. Le May	Annual Member
Miss Pauline Manfield	Annual Member
James A. Blair	Annual Member
P.H.W. Kenchington	Annual Member
G.F. Collis	Annual Member
Emanuel de Kadat))	Joint Annual
Mrs. Emanuel de Kadat)	Members
A. Tavantzis	Annual Member
G.S. Head))	Joint Annual
Mrs. Sylvia Head)	Members
Jorge Navarrete)	Joint Annual
Mrs. Patricia Navarrete)	Members
Commander Jorge Sepulveda	Annual Member
Colonel Juan Cerda)	Joint Annual
Mrs. Sara Arenas de Cerda)	Members
Carlos Costa-Nora))	Joint Annual
Mrs. Silvia Monti de Costa-Nora)	Members
D.W. Gill)	Joint Annual
Mrs. Amy C. Gill)	Members
J.C. Lefevre)	Joint Annual
Mrs. J.C. Lefevre)	Members
James Arbuthnot	Junior Member
Leon Bodevin)	Joint Annual
Mrs. Denise Vigneroy de Bodevin)	Members
Miss Helene Bugge	Annual Member
Lt. Com. Pablo Canovas	Annual Member

Gustavo Valdivieso)	Annual Joint
Mrs. Yolanda Valdivieso)	Members
A.S. Woodward	Annual Member
Lt. Col. Nigel Watson	Annual Member
Mrs. Delia Dominguez de Young	Joint Annual
	Member
Samuel Montagu & Co.	Commercial Members

CHRISTMAS BUFFET SUPPER PARTY 1973.

In 1972 the Annual Christmas Party held at the Overseas Club St. James's Street, proved such a success it was decided to do the same again this year. The event took place a little earlier in the month, on 4th December, and the resulting gathering - some 180 guests - surpassed all expectations, the Hall of India being filled to capacity.

Members and friends present gave a very warm welcome to the new Chilean Ambassador, H.E. Rear-Admiral (R) Kaare Olsen and Madame Olsen, their arrival at the head table being greeted with a prolonged standing ovation giving positive proof of a deep feeling of affection towards them personally and of goodwill and understanding towards the Chilean people in their present difficulties.

His Excellency and Madame Olsen, together with our Chairman Lord Aldenham and Lady Aldenham received the guests, and later at an appropriate moment after supper Lord Aldenham gave an official speech of welcome to the Ambassador and Madame Olsen which delighted his audience and evoked spontaneous applause.

After the excitement of the Christmas Draw presided over by Lord and Lady Aldenham assisted by our worthy Hon. Treasurer, Ralph Young, the party was entertained by a group of four young men, attired in national costumes, who gave interpretations of Latin American songs accompanied with guitars. These items went down well, especially the Chilean cuecas and tonadas in which the guests joined in lustily, needless to say in good voice after sampling the Chilean wines. The Committee is grateful to all who helped to make this one of the best Xmas parties for years.



Christmas Buffet Supper- December 1973 (Left to right) Lord Aldenham, Chairman of the Society; Dr. Francis Kelly, Madame Hornsby de Olsen; Sir John Hall; Mrs. Kelly; H.E. The Chilean Ambassador, Admiral (R) Kaare Olsen; Lady Hall; Lady Aldenham.

LORD COCHRANE ESSAY COMPETITION 1973

There was a notable revival of interest, shown by the increase in the number of entries, for this annual competition, of 33 essays compared with 16 for the previous year.

Once again the Committee would like to express its thanks to Dr. Harold Blakemore for setting the requisite number of subjects and marking the papers submitted. The prizes were awarded as follows:-

Prize	Amount	Name of Pupil	School	Subject
1st	£15	Miss Louise Sneyd-Kynnersley	St. Mary's Convent, Ascot	Contemporary Chile Problems & Prospects
2nd	£7.50	Miss Susan Margaret Barber	Magdalen College School, Brackley	Agriculture and Agrarian Reform
3rd	£4.20	Miss Anne Manogue	St. Joseph's College, Bradford	Chilean Agriculture and Agrarian Reform



A jolly group at the Christmas Buffet Supper, December 1973. (Left to right) Mrs. Eileen Holt, Mr. M. Wolffsohn, Mr. John Jackson, Mr. Boris Kouyoumdjian, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Monica Wolffsohn and Mrs. Peter Shaw.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Chile's Marxist Experiment by Robert Moss. (David & Charles, Newton Abbot)
Price £3.75 till 1.8.74.

This is a critical study of what happened in Chile under a Marxist government which took power through the democratic system in 1970.

The author has brought the book up to date to cover the death of President Allende. It shows how the Allende government has pursued a classic Communist formula for the conquest of political power through the concentration of economic power in the hands of the state and the creation of a parallel administration on the model of the Soviets in Russia in 1917. It describes the social and economic costs of a programme of confiscation of private property that brought Weimar levels of inflation, food rationing, and a disastrous loss of production in the state-run corporations.

Robert Moss analyses the tactics of the revolutionary left, the creation of guerilla bases in the south of the country, and of paramilitary brigades and workers' councils in Santiago itself. He reveals the creeping incursion on the rights of ordinary Chileans through attempts to muzzle the independent press, to deny the right to strike, to limit travel abroad, and to subject the courts and the police to political controls.

He also explains how, in a climate of rising political violence and worsening economic crisis, the Chilean armed forces stepped in to preserve the possibility of pluralism at the cost of the temporary loss of some basic liberties, and to give the country at least a chance to knit together the social and economic fabric that the Allende government had torn apart.

The author, Robert Moss is a leader writer with *The Economist*, a contributor to many newspapers and periodicals. He is a lecturer at the Royal College of Defence Studies and is a regular broadcaster on radio and television. In the course of writing this book he visited Chile five times, interviewing politicians, right wing vigilantes, and left-wing guerillas throughout the country.

This is an important book which should be read by everyone who has the interests of Chile at heart as well as all those worried about current dangers to the democratic way of life.

C.L.P.

ACTIVITIES IN SANTIAGO:-

Presentation of Swords of Honour:- This annual ceremony took place rather later than usual, on January 15th. 1974, at the Prince of Wales Country Club, Santiago, and was opened with a speech by the Chairman of the Santiago Committee, Don Enrique Phillips Rodriguez-Peña. Admiral (R) Rafael Santibañez followed with an address in which he gave an explanation of the origin of this traditional gesture on behalf of the Society and reminded those present of the numerous occasions in history when British and Chilean Armed forces worked together.

The British Ambassador, Mr. Reginald Secondé, C.V.O., prior to presenting the Army's Sword, made a fine rousing speech in impeccable Spanish. The four handsome swords made by the Wilkinson Sword Co. of London, were presented to the following cadets from the respective Chilean Armed Forces:-

Army:- "Premio O'Higgins 1973"
Sub-Lt. Oscar Hernán Coddou Molina.
Presented by H.B.M's. Ambassador Mr. Reginald Secondé C.V.O.

Navy:- "Premio Cochrane 1973"
Sub-Lt. Enrique Ide V.
Presented by Almirante Patricio Carvajal.

Air Force:- "Premio Capitán Manuel Avalos Prado 1973"
Sub-Lt. Raúl Eduardo Castillo Pinto.
Presented by Captain Peter Archer R.N.
(Defence Attaché)

Carabineers:- "Premio Orden y Patria 1973"
Sub-Lt. Alejandro Mackenzie Miranda.
Presented by Almirante (R) Fernando Porta Angulo.



Another group at the Christmas Supper Party, (left to right) Mr. K.L.F. Worke; Mrs. McDowell; Mrs. Montieth; Mrs. Guest; Mr. Ian Montieth; Mr. Walter Jones (foreground), Mrs. Ruby Lister and Mr. Percy Humberstone.

OBITUARIES.—

Max L.D. Gillot.— With deep sorrow we record the sudden passing aged 67 of this member, on October 19th. 1973. He had recently, since his retirement, shown renewed interest in the affairs of the Society and affection for Chile, where he was resident for approximately 8 years, in the employ of the Anglo South American Bank. He returned to England in 1935 and worked for Samuel Montagu and Co., the bullion brokers and then for the Eagle Pencil Co., with whom he remained for 38 years, rising to the post of Export Manager and finally a Director of the Company.

He served in the Royal Artillery for the whole of the 1939-45 war, starting as a private in the Territorial Army in 1939 and rising to the rank of Major.

He was married in 1936. His widow Veronica, survives him, also two daughters, one son and nine grandchildren.

A dedicated family man he had many friends but somehow found time for honorary work with the "Samaritans" during later years and was also Treasurer of the Project Trust, which is engaged in sending young men on voluntary service overseas.

We take this opportunity of expressing our sympathy with his family in their sad loss.

Charles Edward Towers.— With regret we record the decease of this old member, on February 13th last, at his home at Felsted, Dunmow, Essex. He was the youngest son of the late Percy and Camilla Towers of Richmond and leaves a widow, Mrs. Dorothy Towers, to whom we offer our sincere sympathy in her bereavement. The funeral was private.

The late Mr. Towers had a great interest in Chile although he had been resident there for only a few years when he was employed by Nitrate Agencies Co. at Iquique, in Northern Chile, in the early thirties. He kept in touch with the gradually reducing number of his former friends who were living there in those old and pleasantly remembered times. On returning to England following the crisis in the Nitrate Industry he eventually became a top executive in an important British firm.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

British Nitrates & Chilean Politics 1886-1896: Balmaceda & North; Dr. Harold Blakemore; The Athlone Press of the University of London; 1974 £4.50.

This book represents the most serious and profound study to have been published on this period of Anglo-Chilean Relations.

By a masterly use of an overwhelming amount of unpublished primary sources, as well as a thorough review of almost every piece of published material relating to this period, Dr. Blakemore is able to dispel the mythical aura with which less rigorous writers had managed to surround the two main characters of this dramatic stage in Chilean History.

Two main subjects, amongst the many treated in this book, can be mentioned in this respect. One is the way in which the author analyses Balmaceda's policy towards the Nitrate Industry as well as his responsibility in the Constitutional crisis that was to culminate with his suicide. The other refers to Colonel North's role as well as that of the other British Interests present in Chile during this crisis. In both cases, and after reading the book one can find very little evidence to support the conventional mythology on these personages, except for the flamboyant character of both of them. Neither was Balmaceda that clairvoyant and nationalist Don Quixote engaging in an unequal battle against obscure and egocentric interests of foreign and native capitalists; nor was North the crucial factotum who was to bring down the legitimate government. We are presented with human characters with a wide range of complex features, instead of the usual Olympian ones with which most previous works have treated this period.

As all outstanding historical works, this one gives many useful insights for analysing present day situations, as well as an exhaustive treatment of the period in question.

It is hoped that Dr. Blakemore will continue to provide us with other works of the excellence of this one.

Maximiliano Cox

EARLY HISTORY OF THE CHILEAN AIR FORCE

The Chilean Air Force was established in 1930 as an independent institution of the Armed Forces, to form with the Army and Navy the three branches of Chilean National Defence.

In 1910 General Pedro Pablo Dartnell, upon his return from a visit to Europe, made a report to the President, recommending the creation of a military air service.

In 1913, under the Government of President Barros Luco, a decree was promulgated founding the Military Aviation School on a site about 16 kilometers from Santiago to the south, called "El Bosque." The founders of this school were the War Minister, then Jorge Matte Gormáz, General Arístides Pinto Concha and Captain Manuel Avalos Prado. In April of the same year, courses were begun for pilots, with a class of seven officers and four non-commissioned officers. At the same time, four commissioned and two non-commissioned officers were sent to Europe for training.

After three years of work, Chilean military aviation had gained such prestige that some countries, such as Bolivia, Uruguay and Ecuador, and afterwards Mexico, sent students to be trained at "El Bosque."

In 1918, the Government created the Aviation Company, assigning to it the required number of pilots, mechanics and equipment. This same year, taking advantage of the termination of World War I, Chile was able to reinforce her air power with the acquirement of material from England, Bristol and Avro planes which came to the country together with a British Mission in charge of Major Victor Huston.

On December 12th, 1918, Lieutenant Dagoberto Godoy, an instructor of "El Bosque," crossed for the first time the Andes Range. This was accomplished in a Bristol Monoplane of 110 h.p., in which he reached an altitude of 16,000 feet.

In April, 1919, another Chilean officer, Armando Cortinez, made a round trip over the Andes, also in a Bristol monoplane. Also in 1919, with the delivery of the first hydroplanes from England, it was possible to begin naval aviation, under the instruction of Major Huston. This continued until 1930 when both branches of aviation were merged.

A new British Mission, headed by Major Frank P. Scott, was contracted in 1920 to train Chilean officers in equipment acquired that same year. The English school of instruction, through the system of double command, constituted the characteristics of this new stage of Chilean aviation, and was maintained for a period of 20 years, during which the equipment was periodically renewed.

National aviation, encouraged by its success, founded the first commercial line operated by military pilots, organized the first Air Club for civilian pilots and established a chain of airfields the length of the country.

The development attained made it imperative in 1930 for the Government to decree the creation of the "Chilean Air Force," as an Institution independent of the Army and Navy, in the organization of which were included pilots from both branches.

In the succeeding years, the Chilean Air Force has made vast progress in piloting, navigation, instrument flight, tactics, administrative forms and creating new generations of air minded Chileans.