



## CHILE

Republica de Chile

**Flag Description:** Two equal horizontal bands of white (top) and red; there is a blue square the same height as the white band at the hoist-side end of the white band; the square bears a white five-pointed star in the center representing a guide to progress and honor; blue symbolizes the sky, white is for the snow-covered Andes, and red stands for the blood spilled to achieve independence; design was influenced by the US flag.



**Background:** Prior to the coming of the Spanish in the 16th century, northern Chile was under Inca rule while Araucanian Indians (also known as Mapuches) inhabited central and southern Chile. Although Chile declared its independence in 1810, decisive victory over the Spanish was not achieved until 1818. In the War of the Pacific (1879-83), Chile defeated Peru and Bolivia and won its present northern regions. It was not until the 1880s that the Araucanian Indians were completely subjugated. A three-year-old Marxist government of Salvador Allende was overthrown in 1973 by a military coup led by Augusto Pinochet, who ruled until a freely elected president was installed in 1990. Sound economic policies, maintained consistently since the 1980s, have contributed to steady growth, reduced poverty rates by over half, and have helped secure the country's commitment to democratic and representative government. Chile has increasingly assumed regional and international leadership roles befitting its status as a stable, democratic nation.

**Geography Location:** Southern South America, bordering the South Pacific Ocean, between Argentina and Peru. Area: Total: 756,950 sq km note: includes Easter Island (Isla de Pascua) and Isla Sala y Gomez. Area - comparative: slightly smaller than twice the size of Montana. Land boundaries: total: 6,339 km. Border countries: Argentina 5,308 km, Bolivia 860 km, Peru 171 km. Coastline: 6,435 km. Climate: temperate; desert in north; Mediterranean in central region; cool and damp in south. Terrain: low coastal mountains; fertile central valley; rugged Andes in east. Natural resources: copper, timber, iron ore, nitrates, precious metals, molybdenum, hydropower. Natural hazards: severe earthquakes; active volcanism; tsunamis. Geography - note: strategic location relative to sea lanes between Atlantic and Pacific Oceans (Strait of Magellan, Beagle Channel, Drake Passage); Atacama Desert is one of world's driest

regions. (CIA World Factbook 2007)

1920 Car, Armd, 4x2. Local design

1932 Car, Armd, 6x6. Berliet TV PDM from France

**1943 Veh, Recce. M3A1 Scout Car.**

Between 1943 and 1946 Chile received 50 M3A1 Scout Cars from the US through the Lend-Lease program (see US for vehicle details).

1978 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Cardoen VTP-2

**1978 Car, Armd, 6x6. EE-9 Cascavel II.**

Of the 106 cars initially received, by 1990 only 30 were still in service; by 2000 all of the cars were out of service or sold. (see Brazil for vehicle details)

1982 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x2. Makina, Multi 163, 4x2

**1982 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Makina, Carancho.**



Above: Carrancho during factory testing. (Photo: Cardoen)

1982 Carr, Pers, Armd, 6x6. Cardoen VTP-1 Orca

1982 Carr, Wpns, Cardoen BMS-1 Alacran half-track

**1985 Carr, Pers, Armd, 6x6. Engesa EE-11 Urutu.** Between 30 and 37 carriers were delivered from Brazil. (see Brazil for vehicle details).

**1990 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. MOWAG Piranha 4x4.**

As of 1990 Chile had 150 Piranha 4x4s. (see Switzerland for vehicle details)

**2000 Veh, Utility. AIL M-325 Commandcar.**



Above: Chilean M-325s with TOW anti-tank launchers. (Photo: Ejército de Chile)

**Remarks:** (see Israel for vehicle details).

**2000 Veh, Utility. AIL M-240 Stormer.**



Above: AIL M240 Stormer fitted with a 105mm Recoilless Rifle. (Photo: Ejército de Chile).

**Remarks:** (see Israel for vehicle details).