



September 25, 1973 Telegram form the Indian Embassy in Santiago

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Summary:

Refugees are flooding foreign embassies in Santiago.

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FROM: Indian Embassy in Santiago

TO: FS, MEA

Tel: 38

Date: Sept 25, 1973

SECRET

...Question of political asylum is becoming serious. Over thousand persons are now taking refuge in various Embassies in Santiago both Latin and non-Latin. Even Latin Embassies are only getting safe-conducts for taking out their refugees in slow and irrational manner.

Fear among Leftists in Santiago even non-violent ones is increasing. Haselman UNHCR representative, tells me over 200 Uruguayan policemen and 300 Brazilian policemen have arrived in Chile and Brazilian and Uruguayan refugees continue to be disposed of in annihilating manner. I am under considerable pressure from colleagues to alleviate burden on them by granting protection to leftists in residence and chancery. I am determined that India should not be saddled with responsibility for South American refugees. However on humanitarian grounds something has to be devised to save lives of these unfortunate if misguided persons. An expression of sympathy from our government or public communication to Sadruddin Aga Khan may be helpful.