

September 23, 1973

Telegram from the Indian Embassy in Santiago

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Summary:

Foreign refugees in Chile are causing concern with the military government.

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Transcript - English

FROM: Indian Embassy in Santiago

TO: Foreign Secretary, MEA

SECRET

MOST IMMEDIATE

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Situation of foreign refugees in Chile gives cause for concern. Thousands of these persons are regarded by military governing board as terrorist hirelings of Allende Government and strong public feeling has been aroused against them. Non-Latin American embassies have been giving shelter to many of them who feel their lives are in danger: Canadian embassy has over 30.

I have been in touch with Sadrudding Agha Khan in Geneva and his South American Representative Hassleman is unsympathetic and appears to have a closed mind. He has appealed to me to rouse opinions among heads of Missions. I am hampered by fact that we have not yet recognized military governing board. Britain has just done so. I propose to follow example of Swedish Ambassador Edelstam and start sending notes to new government without however acknowledging their note of 12th September. Edelstam tells me Chilean Ministry of External Relations does not consider this as recognition. I cannot see any other pragmatic solution.