

October 4, 1973

**Telegram from R.S. Kalka, First Secretary, Embassy
of India in China**

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Summary:

China's reaction to the coup in Chile

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FROM: R.S. Kalha, First Secretary, Embassy of India in China, Peking

TO: Shri K.K.S. Hana, Director (EA), MEA

DATE: October 4, 1973

We have received some further interesting information on China's reaction to the coup in Chile. Recently Bargmann, the well-known DPA correspondent, mentioned that the Chinese had said that they have no intention of withdrawing their Ambassador from Chile. The Chinese also maintained that a change of Government or for that matter recent events in Chile were purely an internal affair and as such China would not be seen taking sides. Bargmann maintained that the Chinese had taken this position because 80% of their copper imports come from Chile, and that the price at which copper is imported by the Chinese from Chile, is very favorable to them. Secondly, with China's anti-Soviet campaign being at its height, they would be reluctant to follow the socialist bloc in suspending their relations. Lastly, as we had mentioned before, Allende was hardly a favorite figure of Peking.