WDC declined [illegible] (RA62)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

UNCLASSIFIED SECRET [redacted]

RA62

MEMORANDUM

April 29, 1970

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
( ) Classify as (✓) Extend as (5) Downgrade to
Date 11/31/01 Declassify on _____ Reason 25X1

TO : INR - Mr. Ray S. Cline

FROM : INR/DDC - Wymberley Coerr

SUBJECT: Ambassador Korry recommends that U.S. not intervene in Chilean Elections

REFERENCE: Santiago [redacted], SECRET/[redacted] 29 April

Ambassador Korry emphatically recommends that the USG reject the advice of an Anaconda official that the USG give assistance to the presidential campaign of the conservative candidate, Alessandri. His principal arguments are:

a) Alessandri has sufficient funds and/or sources of funds;

b) Our assistance would surely become known. This would provide a bonus for the Chilean left wing and would have many unfortunate consequences not only for the U.S. position in Chile (especially with the ruling Christian Democratic Party), but also for Alessandri himself;

c) In no event, even with an Alessandri victory, will the climate in Chile be propitious for capitalistic enterprise.

COMMENT: STET

[redacted] With this telegram, the Ambassador has confounded predictions that he would soon recommend that we adopt a more positive stance and intervene with specific political action to help Alessandri. We endorse this position.

At the end of his message, Korry does raise the theoretical possibility that we might aid both Alessandri and the Christian Democratic candidate, Tomic, in an effort to force Allende into third place and thus out of consideration in the final decision that the Chilean Congress will make between the two candidates who lead in the popular election. I see no merit in such bulk intervention, and much risk.

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Exemption(s) B1 B3

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