



Def 1 Brazil

Department of State

TELEGRAM

Declassified Case: NW# 39953 Date: 06-14-2019

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DECLASSIFIED Authority: NND 969000

CONFIDENTIAL 115

*Rec 9774
7/10/68*

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, RSR 01, AID 28, CU 04, HEW 07, NIC 01, EUR 15,
SAL 01, LAB 06, SIL 01, E 15, COM 08, /1701

PI R 102120Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2886
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONGEN SAO PAULO
AMCONGEN RECIFE

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW
 Retain, classify, or Change/classify to
 Declassify with concurrence of []
EO 12958, 25X
FPC/HDR by *Kat* Date: *3/7/96*
Withdrawal No. *DEF Box 54 1967-69*
CENTRAL FILES #16

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ RIO DE JANEIRO 9774

SUBJECT: NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING; PRESS
INTERVIEW BY LABOR MINISTER PASSARINHO

1. PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA WILL MEET WITH NATIONAL
SECURITY COUNCIL RIO DE JANEIRO MORNING JULY 11. NO
OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF PURPOSE OF MEETING BUT CLEARLY
A PRINCIPAL SUBJECT DISCUSSION WILL BE CURRENT WAVE OF
STUDENT AGITATION PLUS RECENT TERRORISTIC ACTS SAO PAULO
AND HOW TO DEAL WITH THESE PROBLEMS.

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2. ON EVENING JULY 9, LABOR MINISTER JARBAS PASSARINHO
HELD PRESS INTERVIEW RIO DE JANEIRO, PROMINENTLY PLAYED
BY MOST PRESS, IN WHICH HE REPORTED TO HAVE EXPRESSED
BELIEF THAT CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS, PARTICULARLY IN STUDENT
SECTOR, COULD LEAD COUNTRY TO RIGHTIST DICTATORSHIP.
PASSARINHO REPORTEDLY SAW IMPLANTATION SUCH DICTATORSHIP
AS IMMEDIATE AIM LEFTIST AGITATORS IN STUDENT MOVEMENT
WHO THINK THEREBY FACILITATE POPULAR REVULSION WHICH
MIGHT ENABLE THEM COME TO POWER.

3. QUESTIONED BY NEWSMAN RE RUMOR HE WOULD HEAD
MILITARY JUNTA TO REPLACE COSTA E SILVA, PASSARINHO
INDIGNANTLY DENIED ANY POSSIBILITY HIS BETRAYAL.

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PRESIDENT AND EXCLAIMED, "I WILL FIGHT WITH ALL MY FORCE TO KEEP BRAZIL DEMOCRATIC, I DO NOT ACCEPT AS VALID ANY TYPE OF DICTATORSHIP, I WILL HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH ANY SOLUTION WHICH IN NAME OF DEMOCRACY TAKES AWAY THE LIBERTY OF MAN."

4. PASSARINHO ALSO REPORTEDLY AFFIRMED HE HAD OFFERED HIS RESIGNATION TO PRESIDENT AND IS QUOTED BY O JORNAL AS HAVING SAID, "IF I WERE PRESIDENT, I WOULD UNDERTAKE TO REFORM THE MINISTRY, TO DEMONSTRATE WAY OPEN FOR DISCUSSIONS OF PROBLEMS...FOR QUESTION IS NOT CONFINED MERELY TO STUDENTS BUT IS GENERAL."

5. MINISTER INTERIOR GENERAL ALBUQUERQUE LIMA ALSO REPORTED JULY 10 PRESS TO HAVE CONFIRMED HE TOO HAD PLACED HIS OFFICE AT DISPOSITION PRESIDENT TO GIVE HIM GREATER FREEDOM FOR ACTION.

5. COMMENT: JULY 11 NSC MEETING SHOULD PRODUCE CLEARER DEFINITION GOVERNMENT POLICY RE DISORDERS CENTERED IN STUDENT SECTOR. ALTHOUGH PRESSURES HAVE INCREASED WITHIN MILITARY FOR FIRM REPRESSION SUCH DISORDERS, INCLUDING THRU DECLARATION STATE OF SIEGE, PRESIDENT LIKELY CONTINUE SUCCESSFULLY RESIST SUCH PRESSURES PARTICULARLY IN VIEW CURRENT DIMINUTION STUDENT AGITATIONS. PASSARINHO'S PRESS INTERVIEW APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN IN PART EFFORT COUNTER ELEMENTS IN MILITARY FAVORING POLITICAL HARDENING AND IN PART EFFORT SMOOTH WAY FOR POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL ACTION RE MINISTERIAL REFORM. SEEMS UNLIKELY HE WOULD HAVE MADE STATEMENTS WITHOUT ASSURANCE OF PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE.

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