Charge:

SECRET

Classification

Control: 714

Pol 13-2

Date: April 21, 1967
1431

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC   384

INFO : AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO 429

SECDEF

CINCSO

BRASILIA   714

SECDEF FOR DIA

1. On evening of 20 April Gen. Walters had dinner at Alvorada with President and Mrs. Costa e Silva, only Air Force aide was present. President questioned Walters in great detail regarding incident earlier in the day at University of Brasilia, when following Ambassador's speech trouble had occurred between police and students after Ambassador had left premises. Walters said that hostility had not been bitter, and that he did not have impression that crowd was ugly. He had walked through students with Ambassador and there had not been insults nor cursing nor had there been any attempt to do violence to Ambassador Tuthill. However as we were leaving building (Walters was in civilian clothes) considerable number of Federal District police

DRAFTED:Gen. Walters:mjm:4-21-67

W

SECRET

Classification

FORM FS-413
3-1-55

"Single-address messages to the Department can be diverted to pouch (appropriate to the classification of the message) without retyping. Type "By Pouch" after the address, omit the serial number, and pouch in envelope marked "For DC/T".

☆GPO : 1961 O -612211(42)

Charge:

<u>SECRET</u>
Classification

Control:

Date:

in uniform entered building. Walters told commander that nothing

had happened and that Ambassador was already out of building:

President Costa e Silva listened attentively and said that this had

been part of an organized demonstration and that similar incidents

had been scheduled to take place in Rio, Sao Paulo and Belo Horizonte.

Student leaders had been warned night before that no desacato (roughly

translated--disrespect) would be tolerated. As Brazilian he felt

this kind of behavior in front of foreign ambassador humiliating to

Brazil, and students had to be taught a lesson. Seven agitators had

come up from ~~Port~~ Guanabara to organize this and if it was not made

plain that government was not prepared to tolerate this kind of nonsense

anarchy would follow.

    2. After dinner General Emilio Medice, Chief of National

Intelligence, came in to report to President on matter and attend

movie shown in palace. He repeated to Walters approximately what

President had said earlier and was obviously source of what President

had expressed.

    3. Comment: President Costa e Silva did not appear shocked at

fact that several students had been injured. He felt that matter was

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direct challenge to Governments authority. He expressed regret at students injured but felt organized challenge in front of distinguished foreign ambassador could not be left unanswered. Added he would make up his mind when he got detailed report on incident in morning.

4. Medice said he was reporting to President Costa e Silva that Military Area very quiet and united in support of government, but that Congress and students increasingly disposed to defy to government. He had urged President to step in and provide direct leadership to ARENA Party in Congress but that president was still reluctant to do this for fear that it would appear he was pushing Congress around or trying to intimidate it. Medice said he would continue trying. Comment: Medice spoke quite frankly.

GP-4

TUTHILL