

TELEGRAM

INCOMING

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

Pal 13-2

ACTION
POL-2
CHRON
RF

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Control: 72

Recd: APR 4, 1968
8:05 AM

O P 032130Z APR 68
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 924
INFO RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 1599
RUESUP/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 1061
RUESEI/AMCONSUL RECIFE 1181
STATE GRNC
BT

ACTION COPY
ACTION TAKEN..... *Noted*
BSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIO DE JANEIRO 6829

SUBJECT: NATIONAL SUMMARY OF STUDENT SITUATION

JOINT BRASILIA/RIO MESSAGE

1. NATIONWIDE DEMONSTRATIONS IN PROTEST DEATH OF RIO STUDENT CONTINUED--AT DIMINISHED INTENSITY-- THROUGH APRIL 3. DEMONSTRATIONS THUS FAR HAVE RESULTED IN FOUR DEATHS (THREE RIO, ONE GOIANIA), SCORES OF ARRESTS AND MANY DEMONSTRATORS AND POLICE HOSPITALIZE, ESPECIALLY IN RIO BUT ALSO SOME IN BRASILIA, BELO HORIZONTE, AND GOIANIA.

At APRIL 3 PRESS REPORTS ORDERLY DEMONSTRATION FLORIANOPOLIS, SANTA CATARINA WITH OVERTONE ANTI-AMERICANISM; LIGHTNING RALLIES IN RECIFE; DEMONSTRATION IN BELO HORIZONTE RESULTING IN THREE INJURED POLICEMENT; ISOLATED ATTEMPTS TO DEMONSTRATE IN PORTO ALEGRE QUICKLY BROKEN UP BY POLICE.

3. ATTACKS AGAINST ADMINISTRATION--WITH EMPHASIS ON GOIANIA SITUATION--BY OPPOSITION DEPUTIES CONTINUED IN CONGRESS APRIL 2 AND 3. CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES APPROVED RESOLUTION REGRETTING EVENTS IN GUANABARA. RESOLUTION WAS ARENA SUBSTITUTION FOR ONE INTRODUCED BY OPPOSITION WHICH "VEHEMENTLY PROTESTED BARBAROUS ATTACK ON PUBLIC LIBERTIES" COMMITTED BY GUANABARA POLICE. PETITION PRESENTED BY ARENA DEPUTY BEZERRA DE MELO (SAO PAULO) FOR FORMATION CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE "VIOLENCES AGAINST STUDENTS" THROUGHOUT NATION AND ESPECIALLY DEATH OF STUDENT IN RIO RECEIVED REQUIRED SIGNATURES FOR AUTOMATIC APPROVAL. FORMATION OF COMMITTEE NOW PENDING NAMING OF MEMBERS BY CHAMBER DIRECTORATE.

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PAGE -2 RIO 6829

Recd:

RM JRCC COMMENT: EXECPT FOR BRIEF PERIOD EVENING OF APRIL FIRST IN
GUANABARA BEFORE ARMY TOOK CONTROL, SECURITY FORCES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY
HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONTAIN SITUATION THUS FAR AND PRESIDENT
ATTEMPTING MINIMIZE IMPORTANCE OF DEMONSTRATION BY CONTINUING
HIS NORMAL SCHEDULE IN PORTO ALEGRE. NONETHELESS SITUATION REMAINS
THESE, PARTICULARLY IN GUANABARA, WITH CONCERN CENTERED ON
DEMONSTRATIONS PLANNED FOR APRIL 4. EHILR REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT
WILL DECLARE FULL STATE OF SIEGE OR ISSUED NEW INSTITUTIONAL ACT ARE
PROBABLY PREMATURE, OUR SOURCES CONFIRM STRONG TENDENCY IN MILITARY
CIRCLES OF GOB TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF ADDITIONAL POWERS (SOME HAVE
HINTED AT NEW LEGISLATION) TO DEAL WITH THIS TYPE OF SITUATION.
WHAT HAPPENS TOMORROW WILL PROBABLY BE DECIDING FACTOR. TUTHILL
BT

RR/04/9:20 AM

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