

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

INCOMING SAO PAULO

POL 15-4

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

ACTION

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APRIL 29, 1969

FROM RIO DE JANEIRO 3159 APRIL 28

ACTION PRIORITY DEPT INFO BRASILIA SAO PAULO RECIFE USCINCSO
USCINCSO FOR POLAD

1. SUMMARY. FORTY-FOUR FEDERAL CIVIL SERVANTS IN FIELD OF EDUCATION, MOST OF THEM PROMINENT UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS, WERE COMPULSORILY RETIRED APRIL 25 BY PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA UNDER PROVISIONS OF INSTITUTIONAL ACT NO. 5. THIS IS LONGEST LIST OF FORCED RETIREMENTS THUS FAR UNDER IA-5. PRESIDENTIAL ACTION FOLLOWED SUMMARY INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED BY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. NO REASONS WERE GIVEN FOR GOB ACTION AND IN MANY CASES PENALTIES PROVED INEXPLICABLE. GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED RETIREMENT PAY FOR THOSE REMOVED FROM FUNCTIONS IS TO BE IN PROPORTION TO LENGTH OF SERVICE.

2. LIST OF PENALIZED PROFESSORS INCLUDES SOME WITH NATIONAL AND EVEN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATIONS SUCH AS: JOSE LEITE LOPES, PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS, UNIVERSITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO; JAIME TIOMNO, PROFESSOR OF ADVANCED PHYSICS AND DIRECTOR OF NUCLEAR EMULSIONS LABORATORY, UNIVERSITY OF SAO PAULO; FLORESTAN FERNANDES, PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF SAO PAULO; ABERLARDO ZALUAR, PROMINENT ARTIST AND PROFESSOR, RIO SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS; MARIA YEDDA LEITE LINHARES, SOCIOLOGIST; NASSIM GABRIEL MEHEDFF, PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF MINAS GERAIS. EX-FEDERAL DEPUTY OSMAR CUNHA AND EX-GUANABARA STATE DEPUTY YARA LOPES VARGAS, BOTH OF WHOM HAVE BEEN CASSATED SINCE IA-5, WERE ON RETIREMENT LIST.

3. PROFESSOR MEHEDFF HAS BEEN SELECTED FOR AID INTERNSHIP ON EDUCATION AND IS ALSO DESIGNATED MEMBER OF MINAS GERAIS TEAM TO WORK WITH PROGRAM ON STATE SECONDARY EDUCATION. CURSORY CHECK USIS RECORDS SHOW SIX OTHERS ON LIST OF RETIREMENTS HAVE RECEIVED VARIOUS US EDUCATION GRANTS IN PAST. THEY ARE: BOLIVAR LAMOUNIER, PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE; EDUARDO MOURA DE SILVA ROSA: EULALIA MARIA LAHNMEYER LOBO, PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO, GUY JOSE PAULO DE HOLLANDA; WILSON FERREIRA LIMA, PROFESSOR OF ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF PARA: AND MIRIAM LIMOEIRO CARDOSO LIMA.

4. OTHERS RETIRED BY PRESIDENTIAL ACTION INCLUDE: QUIRINO CAMPFIORITO, PAINTER AND PROFESSOR, RIO SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS: ROBERTO BANDEIRA ACIOLI, SOCIOLOGIST AND FORMER DIRECTOR OF

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COLEGIO DOM PEDRO II; MARIA LAURA MOUZINHO LEITE LOPES, PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO AND WIFE OF JOSE LEITE LOPES; MARIO BARATA, PROFESSOR, RIO SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS AND ART CRITIC; MANUEL MAURICIO DE ALBUQUERQUE, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY; JOAO BATISTA VIOLANOVA ARTIGAS, PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE, UNIVERSITY OF SAO PAULO; PLINIO SUSSEKIND DA ROCHA, PROFESSOR OF MECHANICS, UNIVERSITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO; JOAO CRISTOVA CARDOSO, RESEARCHER, CHEMICAL INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO; ELISA ESTER FROTA PESSOA, RESEARCHER, NUCLEAR EMULSION LABORATORY, BRAZILIAN PHYSICS RESEARCH CENTER, RIO; MARIA HELENA TRENCH VILLAS BOAS, RESEARCHER, PROFESSOR QUEIROZ FILHO CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH, SAO PAULO; ALBERTO COELHO DE SOUSA; ALBERTO LATORRE DE FARIA; AUGUSTO ARAUJO LOPES ZANITH; AUELIO AUGUSTO ROCHA; CARLOS ALBERTO PORTOCARRERO DE MIRANDA; HELIO MARQUES DA SILVA; HUGO WEISS; ILDICO MARIA ERSSEBET; JOAO LUIZ DUBOC PINAUD; JOSE AMERICO DA MOTA PESSANHA; JOSE DE LIMA SIQUEIRA; LINCOLN BICALHO ROQUE; MARIA CELIA PEDROSO TORRES BANDEIRA; MARIA HELOISA VILLAS BOAS; MARIA JOSE DE OLIVEIRA; MARINA SAO PAULO DE VASCONCELOS; MARIZA COUTINHO; MILTON LESSA BASTOS; MOEMA EULALIA DE OLIVEIRA TOSCANO; AND SARA DE CASTRO BARBOSA.

5. COMMENT: NO CRITERIA FOR APPLYING RETIREMENTS ARE DISCERNIBLE. SOME OF PROFESSORS PUNISHED SUCH AS JOSE LEITE LOPES AND HIS WIFE AND FLORESTAN FERNANDES ARE WELL KNOWN FOR LEFTIST SENTIMENTS. OTHERS SUCH AS PLINIO SUSSEKIND DA ROCHA AND JAIME TIOMNO ARE CONSIDERED CONSERVATIVE IN POLITICAL VIEWS. MARIA YEDDA LEITE LINHARES AND JOSE AMERICO DA MOTA PESSANHA PARTICIPATED PROMINENTLY IN STUDENT PROTEST MOVEMENTS LAST YEAR. ABELARDO ZALUAR IS KNOWN TO HAVE OPPOSED PUBLICLY DIRECTOR OF RIO SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS ON ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS. PERHAPS BEST EXPLANATION FOR CATCHALL NATURE OF LIST IS THAT, ACCORDING TO REPORTS REACHING EMBASSY, IT WAS DEvised BY PROFESSOR JORGE BOAVENTURA, HEAD OF HIGHER EDUCATION DIVISION OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE, WHO IS DEDICATED RIGHTWINGER AND IS CONSIDERED UNBALANCED BY EMBASSY OFFICERS WHO HAVE HAD ASSOCIATION WITH HIM.

6. NOT SURPRISINGLY RETIREMENT LIST IS HAVING CONSIDERABLE AND WIDESPREAD UNFAVORABLE IMPACT IN BRAZIL IN STUDENT, ACADEMIC AND INTELLECTUAL CIRCLES. CERTAIN LEADING SCIENTISTS CONTACTED EMBASSY SCIATT EARLY APRIL 28 TO EXPRESS SERIOUS CONCERN FOR FUTURE SCIENCE IN BRAZIL. THAT LIST APPEARS CAPRICIOUS IN FORMULATION AND INCLUDED INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN AND RESPECTED

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MEMBERS OF ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY IS CERTAIN TO
CAUSE UNCERTAINTY AND APPREHENSION AND MAY WELL CONTRIBUTE TO
INCREASE IN ALLEGED BRAIN DRAIN ABOUT WHICH GOB CLAIMS IT IS
SO DEEPLY CONCERNED.

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