

# TELEGRAM

INCOMING

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

Foreign Service of the  
United States of America

POL 13-2

ACTION  
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CHRON  
RF

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Control: RIO 9595

Recd: JULY 5, 1968  
9:48 AM

O P 042200Z JUL 68  
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1951  
RUEOJFA/DIA WASHDC UNN  
INFO RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 1951  
RUESUP/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 1304  
RUESEI/AMCONSUL RECIFE 1387  
RULPAL/USCINCSO UNN  
STATE GRNC

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ACTION TAKEN *Noted*  
*to*

BT  
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CINCSO FOR POLAD

DEPT PASS ASST SECRETARY OLIVER

SUBJ: STUDENT SITUATION

REF: RIO DE JANEIRO 9595

1. STUDENTS TURNED OUT CROWD OF APPROXIMATELY 6000 FOR RALLY AND MARCH JULY 4, LESS THAN HALF SIZE OF JUNE 26 GATHERING. PERCENTAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE MUCH GREATER THAN ON JUNE 26, WITH ONLY SCATTERING OTHER PARTICIPANTS. EMBASSY OBSERVERS NOTED 20 PRIESTS, SOME TEACHERS AND INTELLECTUALS, A NUMBER OF WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS AND ONE SMALL GROUP OF MOTHERS. STUDENTS CARRIED LARGE NUMBER OF BANNERS, SEVERAL OF WHICH CONDEMNED IMPERIALISM, MANY MORE THAN ON JUNE 26 CONCERNED NON-STUDENT ISSUES. MAIN THEME, HOWEVER, WAS LIBERTY FOR DEMONSTRATORS STILL IN CUSTODY. STUDENTS ALSO CARRIED EFFIGY WHICH REPRESENTED RIO'S O GLOBO NEWSPAPER, BUT WHICH LOOKED LIKE UNCLE SAM.

2. CROWDS FIRST MET AT MINISTRY OF EDUCATION BUILDING. AFTER SPEECHES MARCHED TO STATE ASSEMBLY WHERE RALLY STRESSING FAMILIAR THEMES WENT ON FOR OVER TWO HOURS. THEREAFTER MARCHED DOWN AVENIDA RIO BRANCO WITH SHORT STOP AT EDIFICIO CENTRAL FOR MORE ORATORY. THEN CONTINUED ON TO WAR MINISTRY FOR FINAL ROUND OF HARANGUES. TOTAL CROWD THERE, WITH RUSH HOUR BYSTANDERS, APPEARED LARGER. DISPERSED 1800 HOURS.

3. THROUGHOUT PROCEEDINGS CROWDS ORDERLY, BUT OBVIOUSLY MUCH LESS ORGANIZED THAN ON JUNE 26. THOUGH

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PAGE -2 RIO 9595

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STUDENTS THIS TIME HAD BULL HORNS, CROWD APPEARED LESS RESPONSIVE. VLADIMIR PALMEIRA SPOKE SEVERAL TIMES BUT SEEMED NOT TO BE IN SUCH COMPLETE CONTROL AS LAST WEEK. NO POLICE IN EVIDENCE AT ANY TIME. AS OF 1815 HOURS, NO VIOLENCE REPORTED.

4. UNION PARTICIPATION LIGHT, THOUGH TEACHERS UNION CARRIED BANNER AND BANKWORKERS REPRESENTATIVES SPOKE TO CROWD. JULY 4 NEWSPAPERS CARRIED STORY THAT MORE THAN 20 LEADERS OF GUANABARA LABOR UNIONS AND FEDERATIONS, AFTER MEETING WITH REGIONAL LABOR DELEGATE JULY 3, GUARANTEED NO WORKERS REPRESENTED BY THEM WOULD PARTICIPATE IN RALLY AND MARCH. LINE THEY TOOK WAS THAT MARCH EXCLUSIVELY STUDENT AFFAIR CONNECTED WITH STUDENT PROBLEMS AND OF NO CONCERN TO LABOR WHICH PRESENTLY ENJOYS USEFUL DIALOGUE WITH LABOR MINISTER PASSARINHO. ACCORDING EMBASSY INFORMATION, GOB HAS RECENTLY BEEN EXERTING CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE AGAINST UNIONS TO DESIST FROM POLITICAL ACTIVITY.)

5. PRESS ALSO REFLECTED DISAGREEMENT IN CLERICAL RANKS. PRIESTS AT JULY 3 MEETING FIRST DECIDED NOT TO PARTICIPATE OFFICIALLY IN JULY 4 PROCEEDINGS WITH STUDENTS. LATER AT MEETING WITH BISHOP CASTRO PINO THEY REVERSED SLEEVES AND ISSUED STATEMENT TERMING JULY 4 MANIFESTATIONS JUST AND APPROVING IT ON APOLITICAL BASIS. STATEMENT ALSO TERMED GOVERNMENT EDUCATIONAL REFORM STEPS THUS FAR INADEQUATE, DENOUNCED FACT THAT SOME DEMONSTRATORS STILL IMPRISONED AND DECLARED SOME GOVERNMENT SECTORS DISCOURAGE FRANK, SINCERE UNDERSTANDING.

6. MINISTER GAMA E SILVA SPENT JULY 4 IN RIO. AFTER CONFERENCE WITH PRESIDENT IN BRASILIA, TOLD PRESS HE WISHED TO OBSERVE TODAY'S DEVELOPMENTS AND SAID HE INTENDED TO SUGGEST "ENERGETIC BUT CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURES" INCLUDING STATE OF SEIGE SHOULD SITUATION WARRANT.

7. ARMA TOLD BY RELIABLE COLONEL IN ARMY MINISTER'S OFFICE THAT GEN. LYRA TAVARES WAS LIVID UPON RETURN FROM MEETING WITH PRESIDENT IN BRASILIA JULY 3. MINISTER REPORTEDLY GAVE PRESIDENT CONCISE ESTIMATE OF SITUATION AND PAINTED BLACK PICTURE OF UNREST IN OFFICER RANKS. COSTA E SILVA SAID TO HAVE REJECTED PRESSURES AND DEPLORED

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PAGE -3 RIO 9595

LYRA'S ATTITUDE. LATTER LEFT IN DISGUST BUT APPARENTLY STILL ON SIDE OF PRESIDENT AS HE WENT TO VILA MILITAR THIS MORNING TO CALM DOWN YOUNGER OFFICERS AND URGE CONFIDENCE IN PRESIDENT AND HIGH COMMAND.

8. COMMENT: TODAY'S EVENTS ANTI-CLIMATIC COMPARED WITH JUNE 26 AND CANNOT HELP BUT DISAPPOINT STUDENT ORGANIZERS AND THEIR ALLIES. AS UNIVERSITIES NOW ON VACATION AND IN LIGHT TODAY'S RELATIVE FAILURE, IT DOUBTFUL THEY WILL ATTEMPT FURTHER LARGESCALE INITIATIVES SOON. DEVELOPMENTS IN LABOR AND CLERGY SECTORS SIGNIFICANT AND MAY ALSO SERVE GIVE STUDENTS PAUSE. TUTHILL  
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