

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Rio de Janeiro A-396
dated August 27, 1970
Page 2

attitudes contrary to the attainment of the national objectives."

COMMENT: If the actions of which Priest Amoral is charged are true, he has apparently violated the National Security Law as amended. Virtually any anti-government manifestation, however mild, could be considered a violation, although judging from what was published only in the most tenuous manner could national security have been endangered by his speech. Probably his conviction resulted at least in part from the allegation that he has been connected to subversives, including the mother superior Maurina Borges da Silveira, who was arrested for sheltering terrorists and was one of the prisoners exchanged for the kidnapped Japanese Consul General. Amoral's case is a well-publicized, current example of a "political" conviction, which no doubt will be seized upon by exile groups to once again dispute the GOB's allegation that it has no political prisoners and also possibly to strengthen the impression abroad of GOB persecution of the church in Brazil.

 ROCHA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE