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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 4 SAO PAULO 1687

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, BR
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN BRAZIL

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ACTION
POL 2

REF: (A) GIRDLER SAVACALL; (B) RIO DE JANEIRO 2484

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1. PREFATORY COMMENT AND SUMMARY: BECAUSE OF THE SUBJECT MATTER'S SUPERSENSITIVE NATURE, MUCH OF THE INFORMATION WE OBTAIN ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS TENDS TO BE MURKY, EMOTION-LADEN AND HIGHLY SUBJECTIVE. OUR PRIMARY SOURCES ARE DEFENSE COUNSEL, CATHOLIC CLERGY AND LAYMEN ACTIVE IN THE FIELD AND JOURNALISTS, THAT IS, PRINCIPALLY THE POLITICAL ALLIES OF THOSE WHO ARE ON THE "RECEIVING END" OF THE VIOLATIONS, SO TO SPEAK, AND, ON RARE OCCASIONS, PROMINENT FIGURES AND CONGEN CONTACTS, SUCH AS PAULO ISRAEL SINGER AND CLAUDIO ABRAMO, WHO THEMSELVES HAVE UNDERGONE DETENTION AND INTERROGATION. CATHOLIC CHURCH SOURCES WHO COMPILE THE DOCUMENTATION AND STATISTICS (WHICH OFTEN WEND THEIR WAY TO THE U.S. CONGRESS VIA THE CHURCH IN THE U.S.) TEND TO AMBIGUITY IN DEFINING THEIR TERMS AND SO FAR HAVE PROVEN RETICENT TO REVEAL THEIR RECORD KEEPING METHODS AND LOGS TO US, PERHAPS OUT OF A BASIC DIS-TRUST FOR OUR MOTIVES AND INTENTIONS. MOREOVER, THERE IS ALWAYS A TIME LAG AFTER A SERIES OF ARRESTS HAS TAKEN PLACE BEFORE ANY NEWS OF TORTURE AND OTHER ABUSES GETS OUT. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN THE PAST WHEN ASKED BY THE EMBASSY TO SUBMIT STATUS REPORTS, OUR SOUNDINGS HAVE PRODUCED NEGATIVE RESPONSES WITH REGARD TO DENUNCIATIONS OF TORTURE-- ONLY LATER HAVING TO CORRECT THIS MISINFORMATION AS MORE DATA BECAME AVAILABLE. DESPITE OUR LIMITED VANTAGE POINTS FOR OBSERVING THE PROBLEM AND THE DIFFICULTIES IN SUBSTANTIATING OUR INFORMATION, WE ENTERTAIN LITTLE DOUBT ABOUT, IN THE GENERAL CREDIBILITY BATTLE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT FORCES ON THE ONE HAND WHO DENY THAT ARBITRARY AND ILLEGAL ACTS TAKE PLACE AND THE SOURCES ON THE OTHER WHO PROVIDE US WITH ALBEIT IMPRECISE INFORMATION, ON WHICH SIDE THE WEIGHT OF THE TRUTH LIES. OUR CONCLUSION IS THAT SERIOUS, FUNDAMENTAL VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONTINUE TO TAKE PLACE IN THE SAO PAULO AREA WHICH ARE CONDONED BY THE AUTHORITIES, SOME OF WHOM LOOK UPON SUCH PRACTICES AS A NECESSARY EVIL AND OTHERS WHO CONTINUE TO BE POWERLESS TO PREVENT THEM FROM TAKING PLACE.
END SUMMARY

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2. THE APPARENT 1974 LULL IN TORTURE CASES: IT DOES SEEM THAT FOR A PERIOD FOLLOWING GEISEL'S INAUGURATION--SOME WOULD SAY BEGINNING SOMETIME IN MAY, 1974 (I.E., AFTER THE WAVE OF ARBITRARY ARRESTS AND TORTURE IN SAO PAULO IN APRIL-MAY HAD RUN ITS COURSE) AND ENDING IN OCTOBER-NOVEMBER (CEBRAP ARRESTS)--THERE WAS A LULL IN REPORTS CIRCULATING ABOUT SUCH HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH NATIONAL

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SECURITY/SUBVERSION CASES IN THE SECOND ARMY AREA. OF COURSE, IT WAS DURING THIS VERY PERIOD THAT CARDINAL ARNS' ORIGINAL LIST OF TWENTY-ONE "MISSING PERSONS" WAS PRODUCED, BUT THOSE CASES WENT BACK TO THE LATTER PART OF 1973, THE LATEST ARREST OF AN INDIVIDUAL APPEARING ON THAT LIST HAVING TAKEN PLACE IN APRIL-MAY, 1974. RUMORS WERE HEARD HERE DURING THIS PERIOD ABOUT ORDERS FROM BRASILIA TO END THE MISTREATMENT OF POLITICAL PRISONERS WHICH, HOWEVER, WE WERE NEVER ABLE TO CONFIRM; AND THE EMBASSY DISCOVERED AN ATTEMPT TO SHIFT THE SECURITY RESPONSIBILITY TO THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE (BRASILIA SAVACALL JAN. 23). THERE WAS ALSO A REPORT FROM CARDINAL ARNS IN SEPTEMBER (SAO PAULO 1965, 1974) ABOUT THE REMOVAL OF TORTURE EQUIPMENT FROM THE DOI/2D ARMY DETACHMENT; AND WE ALSO HEARD ABOUT THE REMOVAL AND REASSIGNMENT OF AT LEAST ONE TEAM OF ARMY TORTURERS TO OTHER POSTS (SEE PAULO 455, 1975). ONE ADDITIONAL POSITIVE NOTE OCCURRING IN 1975 WHICH WE COULD ADD IS THAT THE SECURITY ORGANS LARGELY STAYED OUT OF THE RECENTLY ENDED USP COMMUNICATIONS SCHOOL (ECA) BOYCOTT, EVIDENTLY BOWING TO A FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT POLITICAL DECISION TO ADOPT A HANDS-OFF ATTITUDE (ALTHOUGH WE STILL DO NOT KNOW ALL THE INS-AND-OUTS OF HOW AND WHY THIS CAME ABOUT).

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3. RETROGRESSION IN 1975: MANY OF THESE OBSERVATIONS OF AN IMPROVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS BEHAVIOR DURING 1974 HAVE PROVEN ILLUSORY IN RETROSPECT. NEW TORTURE EQUIPMENT IS EVIDENTLY BACK IN PLACE AND IN OPERATION AT DOI ("E DOI MESMO," AS COLUMNIST CASTELLO BRANCO WOULD SAY). THERE IS ALSO A NEW TEAM OF OPERATORS WORKING THE EQUIPMENT. SOME BELIEVE, AND IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE PLAUSIBLE, THAT ROTATIONS ARE RELATIVELY FREQUENT IN DOI IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE CHANCES OF IDENTIFICATION AND POSSIBLE ACTS OF REVENGE. PERHAPS ALL THAT HAPPENED DURING THE MAY-OCTOBER 1974 PERIOD, CONTRIBUTING TO THE DIMINUTION IN TORTURE CHARGES, WAS THAT THE NUMBER OF SECURITY ARRESTS WAS DOWN. WHETHER THE GEISEL ADMINISTRATION MADE A SERIOUS EFFORT TO GET A GRIP ON THE SECURITY APPARATUS/HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM DURING THIS PERIOD OR NOT, THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT EARLIER PERCEPTIONS OF IMPROVEMENT ON THE PART OF OUR SOURCES HAVE NOT JUST "ERODED", TO CITE RIO'S TERM (REFTEL B); RECOLLECTIONS OF THE EARLIER EPISODE SEEMS TO HAVE ALMOST COMPLETELY VANISHED, ALMOST AS IF THEIR PERCEPTIONS OF TORTURE ARE A FUNCTION SOLELY OF THEIR OUTLOOK CONCERNING THE LARGER ISSUE OF DISTENSÃO. OUR LAWYER, JOURNALIST AND CHURCH SOURCES CONTACTED DURING THE PAST TEN DAYS UNIFORMLY AGREED THAT TORTURE WAS CONTINUING AT DOI. MOREOVER, THERE WAS NO PERCEPTION OF ANY VARIATION IN PATTERN IN TORTURE TECHNIQUES WHICH MIGHT SUGGEST A LETUP INDUCED BY PRESSURE FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING TO ONE CRIMINAL PROSECUTOR, THE INTENSITY OF THE TORTURE IS PRINCIPALLY A FUNCTION OF A JUDGMENT AS TO THE AMOUNT THE PRISONER CAN WITHSTAND WITHOUT SUFFERING FATAL EFFECTS. ALSO, PERIPHERAL WITNESSES, PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS AND WOMEN TAKEN PRISONER MAY NOT UNDERGO ANY PHYSICAL TORTURE, ALTHOUGH BEING SUBJECTED TO SOME DEGREE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL DURESS.

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TORTURE: ARBITRARY ARRESTS AND TORTURE REPORTS ONLY HAVE BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE INVESTIGATION INTO LEB ACTIVITIES STEMMING FROM THE DISCOVERY OF THE PARTY'S PRINTING PRESSES IN RIO AND SAO PAULO IN EARLY 1975, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A LAG BEFORE NEWS OF THESE ABUSES LEAKED OUT. THE MOST PROMINENT CASE IS THAT OF THE CENTRAL PROTAGONIST IN THE INVESTIGATION, FORMER FEDERAL DEPUTY MARCOS ANTONIO TAVARES COELHO, WHOSE TORTURE WAS DENOUNCED IN THE PRESS BY HIS WIFE LAST FEBRUARY AND TO WHICH THE GOVERNMENT RESPONDED BY PUBLISHING A MEDICAL EXAMINERS' REPORT PURPORTING TO SHOW NO EVIDENCE OF MISTREATMENT (AND ALSO BY PRODUCING COELHO FOR A TV FILMING TO DEMONSTRATE THAT HE WAS STILL ALIVE AND IN GOOD HEALTH). IN TURN, COELHO'S LAWYER SUBMITTED TO THE SEGUNDA AUDITORIA DE GUERRA A CONTRADICTORY MEDICAL REPORT DEMONSTRATING THAT COELHO HAD UNDERGONE PHYSICAL ABUSES AND THE LATTER HAS BEEN RETRACTING ON THE WITNESS STAND HIS TESTIMONY EARLIER GIVEN "UNDER COERCION." SO FAR THIS YEAR THE SAO PAULO ARCHDIOCESAN COMMITTEE OF JUSTICE AND PEACE HAS RECEIVED DENUNCIATIONS CONCERNING 171 CASES OF TORTURE IN SAO PAULO. OF 53 RECENTLY ARRESTED SAO PAULO "MILITARY" (UNIFORMED STATE) POLICEMEN, 51 WERE REPORTEDLY TORTURED BY DOI AGENTS OF THE SECOND ARMY, ACCORDING TO THE COMMISSION, INCLUDING A 62 YEAR OLD RETIRED POLICE COLONEL NAMED GOMES MACHADO. THESE FIGURES ARE SAID TO REPRESENT DOCUMENTED CASES OF HARD-CORE PHYSICAL TORTURE AS OPPOSED TO LESSER GRADES OF PHYSICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL DURESS. MOREOVER, NOT ALL THE CASES OF TORTURE OCCURRING IN SAO PAULO ARE REPORTED TO THE ARCHDIOCESE.

5. ARBITRARY ARREST: LAWYERS IN THE FIELD APPEAR TO REGARD THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF ARRESTS IN NATIONAL SECURITY CASES TO BE "ARBITRARY" OR "ILLEGAL" FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS INCLUDING THE MANNER IN WHICH THE ARRESTS TAKE PLACE (THE ARRESTING AGENTS PRODUCE NO IDENTIFICATION, THE PRISONERS ARE IMMEDIATELY HOODED, ETC.), THE GENERAL FISHING EXPEDITION NATURE OF MANY OF THE DETENTIONS, THE HOLDING OF PRISONERS INCOMMUNICADO AND FAILURE TO NOTIFY PROPER JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES AND TO OBTAIN PROPER AUTHORIZATION FOR EXTENDED DETENTIONS BEYOND THE TIME LIMITS ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLE 59 OF THE LEI DE SEGURANCA NACIONAL OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1969. BEYOND THESE VIOLATIONS OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY LAW, MANY LAWYERS CONSIDER THE LAW ITSELF, WHICH IS A DECREE LAW PASSED BY THE EXECUTIVE WITHOUT CONGRESSIONAL SANCTION, TO BE A "DRACONIAN" AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL MEASURE AND INCONSISTENT WITH BRAZIL'S OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

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6. THE POLITICAL DIMENSION: THE PROSPECTS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN BRAZIL CONTINUE TO APPEAR, FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT, TO BE INEXTRICABLY CONNECTED WITH THE OVERALL ISSUE AND FATE OF DISTENSÃO. THE MILITARY RESIST THE DISTENSÃO PROCESS BECAUSE THEY ARE UNWILLING TO SURRENDER THE REINS OF POWER AND THE SECURITY ELEMENTS OF THE MILITARY PARTICULARLY FEAR THAT DISTENSÃO COULD BRING AN INVESTIGATION INTO THEIR HANDLING OF SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS AND OPERATIONS. ALSO, THERE IS A NATURAL TENDENCY ON THE PART OF THE SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS TO EXAGGERATE THE SUBVERSIVE THREAT IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY THEIR CONTINUED EXISTENCE AS WELL AS A CONTINUATION OF THE EXCEPTIONAL POWERS AND IRREGULAR METHODS FOR DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM. SUCH SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS THIS YEAR AS THE CIRCUMVENTING OF A CPI ON (OR, ALTERNATIVELY, A CONGRESSIONAL INVITATION TO THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE TO DISCUSS) HUMAN RIGHTS, MINISTER OF THE ARMY'S FROTA'S COMMUNIQUE TO THE ARMY ASSURING THAT INTERNAL SECURITY WILL REMAIN A MILITARY RESPONSIBILITY, AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT PRONOUNCEMENTS TURNING OFF SPECULATION ABOUT REVOCATION OF THE EXCEPTIONAL

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POWERS SUCH AS AIS, DL 477, THE NATIONAL SECURITY LAW AND THE PRESS LAW, ARE READ BY OUR SOURCES HERE AS CONSTITUTING A DECISIVE TRIUMPH FOR THE SYSTEM OF NATIONAL POWER PARALLEL TO, AND AUTONOMOUS OF, THAT OF THE LEGALLY CONSTITUTED (HOWEVER IMPERFECTLY) GOVERNMENT. IT IS ALSO COMMENTED UPON THAT THE LATEST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT, PRESIDENT GEISEL'S SPEECH OF AUGUST 1, IN EFFECT PRAISES THE SECURITY ORGANS FOR THEIR GOOD WORK IN DISMANTLING SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH IS READ HERE AS AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE METHODS USED IN ATTAINING THAT SUCCESS. LOCALLY IT IS NOTED THERE HAS BEEN NO PUNISHMENT METED OUT TO MILITARY OFFICERS GUILTY OF TORTURING OR ABUSING PRISONERS. QUITE THE CONTRARY, IT IS BELIEVED THAT DOI PERSONNEL ARE GIVEN SPECIAL REWARDS TO TAKE THE JOB. LAWYER SOURCES REFER TO A PROMOTION OF A FORMER DOI COLONEL TO GENERAL AND VIEW THAT AS RATIFICATION OF THE DETACHMENT'S RECORD. NOT THAT OUR SOURCES DOUBT GEISEL AND GOLBERY'S SINCERITY IN WANTING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS; THE GENERAL FEELING (WITH SOME EXCEPTIONS) SEEMS TO BE THAT GEISEL DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT POWER OVER THE SECURITY APPARATUS TO IMPOSE HIS WILL. AT AT SECOND ARMY HEADQUARTERS, IN SYNTHESIS, GENERAL EDUARDO D'AVILA MELLO AT BEST CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS CONDONING THE METHODS USED AT THE DOI DETACHMENT, WHETHER FULLY IN ACCORD OR NOT. PUBLICLY, HE DENIES VEHEMENTLY THAT TORTURE TAKES PLACE, LABELLING SUCH CHARGES COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA. THE HEADY DAYS OF THE GENERAL'S DIALOGUE WITH THE CARDINAL ARE PAST, THEIR RELATIONS HAVING DETERIORATED INTO MUTUAL DISTRUST. EDUARDO EXPECTS TO BE REASSIGNED IN DECEMBER 1975, INCIDENTALLY).

7. CENSORSHIP AND PRESS TREATMENT: AS WE HAVE NOTED IN A PREVIOUS SERIES OF REPORTS ON CENSORSHIP (SAO PAULO TELS 290, 345, 1484) "O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO" HAS BEEN PURSUING A CAUTIOUS POLICY AS TO WHAT IS PRINTS ON SUBJECTS TRADITIONALLY CONSIDERED TO BE SENSITIVE, SUCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN NATIONAL SECURITY CASES. "O ESTADO" IS CHECKING OUT STORIES CAREFULLY BEFORE THEY SEE THE LIGHT OF DAY AND TAKING PAINS NOT TO UNDULY PROVOKE THE AUTHORITIES. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT IT HAS BECOME MORE CIRCUMSPECT AGAIN FOLLOWING THE MORE DARING DAYS OF FEBRUARY-MARCH IN ITS REPORTING OF SUCH VIOLATIONS, ALTHOUGH A MORE CAREFUL STUDY WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE WE COULD SUBSTANTIATE THIS BELIEF. REFERENCES TO TORTURE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS BY MILITARY AGENTS ARE STILL TO BE FOUND, BUT THEY ARE MORE OBLIQUE AND DISCREET THAN IN THE PERIOD BEFORE THE QUESTION OF A CPI ON POLITICAL PRISONERS WAS NEGATIVELY RESOLVED DURING WHICH "O ESTADO" PUBLISHED ITS SERIES OF "MISSING PERSON" NOTICES. "O ESTADO'S" AFTERNOON DAILY, "JORNAL DA TARDE," IS PERHAPS SOMEWHAT MORE AGGRESSIVE IN ITS REPORTING THAN THE MORNING PAPER, BUT THERE IS NO PUBLISHED EVIDENCE OF INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING. THERE CERTAINLY ARE NO EXPOSES. THERE IS STILL MORE PUBLIC INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO "O ESTADO" READERS ON POLITICAL PRISONERS AND OTHER SENSITIVE SUBJECTS THAN PRIOR TO JANUARY WHEN FEDERAL POLICE CENSORS WERE PHYSICALLY ON THE PREMISES AND HAD THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINAL COPY. HOWEVER, THE POSSIBILITY OF REPRESSION WEIGHS HEAVILY ON THE PAPER AND, WHETHER SUBLIMINALLY OR NOT, INFLUENCES ITS EDITORIAL DISCRETION. WE CONTINUE TO HOLD THAT, DESPITE THE GREATER AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ON THE PUBLIC RECORD, THERE ARE ASPECTS TO THIS SITUATION WHICH ARE JUST AS, IF NOT MORE, PERNICIOUS AS DIRECT PHYSICAL CENSORSHIP BY FEDERAL POLICE. THERE APPEARS TO BE NO RETICENCE, HOWEVER, ABOUT REPORTING THE MORE COMMONPLACE STATIONHOUSE BEATINGS IN COMMON CRIMINAL INTERROGATIONS, WHICH APPEAR TO BE ADEQUATELY COVERED; BUT THIS WAS ESSENTIALLY THE CASE PRIOR TO THE REMOVAL OF THE CENSORS IN JANUARY AS WELL.

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8. HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN COMMON CRIMINAL CASES: THE USE OF ELECTRIC SHOCK TREATMENT IS SAID 0 73 :9..9, 8, 09)8:3 8,534492-589, 91 :9..9, 0489,34, THE TECHNIQUES AND EQUIPMENT USED BEING MUCH SIMPLER AND LESS SOPHISTICATED THAN THAT PRACTICED BY THE DOI IN SUBVERSION CASES. SUCH PRACTICES ARE TRADITIONAL IN BRAZIL AND CHURCH AND LEGAL SOURCES BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN NO IMPROVEMENT IN THIS AREA IN YEARS, DESPITE THE COVERAGE THAT SUCH PRACTICES RECEIVE IN THE PRESS. THE PUBLIC DOES NOT SEEM TO CONCERN ITSELF VERY MUCH OVER THIS ISSUE.

9. DEATH SQUAD ACTIVITIES: "DEATH SQUAD" ACTIVITIES I.E., THE LIQUIDATION OF COMMON CRIMINALS BY STATE AND LOCAL POLICE, APPEAR TO CONTINUE TO BE DOGFANT IN SAO PAULO, ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN A RESURGENCE OF THIS PRACTICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO. MOST OF OUR SOURCES AGREE THAT THE TORTURE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AT D

HS HAS CEASED, ALTHOUGH ONE JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION SOURCE DISPUTED THIS. IT MAY BE THAT HE IS REFERRING TO THE TREATMENT OF BANK ROBBERS, WHO COME UNDER THE NATIONAL SECURITY LAW, BUT THIS REQUIRES FURTHER INQUIRY.

10. DISAPPEARANCES AND DEATH OF POLITICAL PRISONERS: WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TWO POLITICAL CASES, THAT OF HIRAM LIMA PEREIRA REPORTED BY THE JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION TO HAVE OCCURRED IN JANUARY AND THAT OF ELSON COSTA SAID TO HAVE OCCURRED IN MARCH, WE HAVE HEARD OF NO FURTHER "DISAPPEARANCES", I.E., PRESUMED DEATHS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, THIS YEAR. HOWEVER, HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN DETAINED SO FAR THIS YEAR AND, AS WE HAVE SUGGESTED IN OUR OPENING COMMENT, IT MAY BE PREMATURE TO MAKE A FINAL JUDGMENT ON THIS ISSUE. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO UNCOVER FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THE REPORTED SIGHTING OF BODIES IN THE PARAIBA VALLEY BEYOND THAT REPORTED IN OUR SAO PAULO 1087.

11. VIOLATIONS OF TRADE UNION FREEDOMS: THERE HAS BEEN NO SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN THE TRADE UNION PICTURE BEYOND THAT REPORTED IN OUR A-20. AS WE NOTED IN THAT REPORT, POLICE REQUIREMENTS FOR TRADE UNION LEADERSHIP CANDIDACY WERE TIGHTENED IN MAY. WE CONTINUE TO HOLD THAT CURRENT EFFORTS UNDER THE SECOND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO PROVIDE GREATER SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE WORKING CLASS AND POOR, AL85 04-832945 6 8, 5 3.3)3, ARE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE DENIAL OF BASIC TRADE UNION FREEDOMS.

12. MISCELLANEOUS POINTS THE EMBASSY MAY WISH TO CONSIDER FOR INCLUSION IN ITS REPORT:

A. THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL HAS NOT BEEN CONVENED BY THE JUSTICE MINISTRY.

B. ACCORDING TO NEWS ACCOUNTS, TO OAB NATIONAL COUNCIL HAS SENT PRESIDENT GEISEL A MEMORANDUM PROTESTING THE RECENT ALLEGED VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF LAWYERS.

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