



CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Department of State

TELEGRAM

INDICATE:

- COLLECT
- CHARGE TO

POL 15-7
1274
28 SEP 71

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO: AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
USCINCSO

BRASILIA 1274

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: BACKGROUND ON ARCHBISHOP'S SPEECH TO
SUPERIOR WAR COLLEGE

REF: BRASILIA 1266

DISTRIBUTION
AMB
COUNS
POL
ECON
USIS
DAO
POL/R
AID
CHRON

1. ACCORDING TO DR. CANDIDO MENDES (PROTECT), DOM AVELAR BRANDAO'S SPEECH BEFORE SUPERIOR WAR COLLEGE (ESG) WAS PREPARED WITH MUCH FORETHOUGHT AND DELIBERATION BY CHURCH GROUP CONSISTING OF DOM AVELAR, DOM ALOSISIO LORSCHIEDER (BISHOP OF SANTO ANGELO AND CNBB PRESIDENT), DOM IVO LORSCHIEDER (AUXILIARY BISHOP OF PORTO ALEGRE AND CNBB SECGEN), AND HIMSELF. DOM EUGENIO SALES (RIO ARCHBISHOP) ALSO REPORTEDLY PARTICIPATED IN GROUP BEFORE LEAVING RIO TO ATTEND VATICAN MEETINGS. DR. MENDES INFORMED EMBASSY THAT CHURCH HAD DECIDED TO "CHALLENGE GOB'S CONSCIENCE" IN EFFORT CURB EXCESSES OF POWER. CHURCH HOPES FOR RESULTS OVER FOUR-YEAR TIME FRAME WITHIN WHICH DOM AVELAR'S SPEECH WAS BUT FIRST MANIFESTATION. DR. MENDES STRESSED THAT CHURCH HAD HOPED TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH GOB AND WAS MERELY STRIVING TO RENEW MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE.

2. CHURCH WORKING GROUP MUCH DISTURBED OVER GEN. RODRIGO OCTAVIO'S LOSS OF COMMAND FOLLOWING ARCHBISHOP'S ADDRESS, ACCORDING SAME SOURCE. DOM AVELAR BEFORE DEPARTING FOR ROME REPORTED BACK TO GROUP FOLLOWING SPEECH INDICATING THAT HE HAD BEEN WELL RECEIVED AND ANTICIPATED NO TROUBLE. PERHAPS MORE CONSERVATIVE

DRAFTED BY

RIO POL/RKOHN
RIO POL/SLOW

DRAFTING DATE

9/28/71

TEL. EXT.

APPROVED BY

AMB/WROUNTREE

CLEARANCES:

RIO DCM/CABOONSTRA

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND53155

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Classification

Department of State TELEGRAM

INDICATE:
 COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION:

2

7

ELEMENTS CHURCH HIERARCHY NOT WILLING SUPPORT EVEN THIS
DEGREE OF CHURCH-STATE CONFRONTATION AND MAY TAKE MORE
LIBERAL GROUP TO TASK.

GP-3

ROUNTREE *gn*

DRAFTED BY:

DRAFTING DATE TEL. EXT.

APPROVED BY:

CLEARANCES:

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND53155

Classification