

POL 15-7

Attorney General  
United States of America

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APR 28 1966

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Recife, Brazil

INFO:

AmConsul, Recife; AmEmbassy, Rio de Janeiro & Brasilia

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AmConsul, SALVADOR

April 26, 1966

Bishops' Conference

*Pol - Antunovic & ...*

ACTION  
*FILE*

1. From April 12 through 21 some 40 Catholic Bishops of Brazil met at Itaparica Island, across the bay from Salvador. They were convoked by Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Bahia Dom Eugênio Salles, to study means of applying to Brazil directives resulting from the second Vatican Council.

2. No pastoral letter or other communique is being issued. It is understood, however, that there was general agreement that a greater degree of science and technology should be brought into religious training and that religious leaders should, in a human and Christian way, provide assistance to labor organizations and establish greater contact with the masses. It is also reported that there was general agreement on the need to create a climate of liberty and fraternity between the Church and its faithful, and that emphasis is to be given to the essential equality among men, with a view toward rediscovering the value and destiny of the human being.

3. It is apparent that one of the principal concerns of the meetings called by Dom Eugênio Salles was to reinvigorate the social consciousness of the Church along the lines of papal directives. It is reported that all conclusions drawn from the seminars will be forwarded to the Pope.

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