

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Info PP RUEHC RUEHIA
DE RUESUA 10607/1 1232354
ZNY CCCCC

1967 MAY 3 PM 10 32

SS P 032325Z MAY 67

GPM FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
SP TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
SC INFO RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

SAH RUESUP/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

SPM RUESEI/AMCONSUL RECIFE

L RUEHIA/USINFO WASHDC

H STATE GRNC

EUR BT

IO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 RIO DE JANEIRO 10607

P REF: RIO DE JANEIRO 10566 ✓ See 13-3 B

USIA RECIFE FOR AMBASSADOR

NSC RECIFE FOR AMBASSADOR

INR 1. SUMMARY - BIRTH CONTROL PRESS REPORTS: THREE LARGE RIO PAPERS
GIA JORNAL DO BRASIL, DIARIO DE NOTICIAS AND ULTIMA HORA, CARRY

NSA LONG STORIES ON BIRTH CONTROL IN AMAZON REGION IN WHAT SEEMS
DOD TO BE THE START OF A CAMPAIGN POTENTIALLY HARMFUL TO US-BRAZIL
SCI RELATIONS. STORIES FOLLOW UP YESTERDAY'S ULTIMA HORA AND TRIBUNA
IGA DA IMPRENSA STATEMENTS BY AN AMAZON REGION DOCTOR AND A BRAZILIAN
AID BISHOP.

PC 2. A REPORT FROM BRASILIA SAYS MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE IVO
E ARZUA WILL DENOUNCE TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH THAT AMERICAN
SCA PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONARIES ARE PREACHING MASS STERILIZATION OF
SCS BRAZILIAN WOMEN IN THE NORTH.

HEW 3. OTHER STORIES SAY THAT BROTHER GIL DE NOVATO, A CATHOLIC
PRIEST, TALKED WITH SEVERAL WOMEN WHO CAME TO SEE HIM IN HIS
CHURCH AND TOLD HIM WHAT THE AMERICAN MISSIONARIES ARE DOING TO
PREVENT THEM FROM HAVING BABIES.

① 4. MINISTRY OF HEALTH OFFICIALLY INFORMS THAT IT IS CARRYING ON
SEVERE INQUIRY ABOUT THE NEWS OF BIRTH CONTROL PRACTICES PLANNED

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Rec 10607
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BY FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS, PRIVATE OR RELIGIOUS, MAINLY IN AMAZON REGION.

5. JOSE CASTRO PINTO, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF RIO DE JANEIRO, SAID THAT BRAZILIAN BISHOPS CAN JOINTLY PROTEST AGAINST BIRTH CONTROL METHODS USED IN AMAZON REGION, IF THE DENUNCIATION IS PROVEN.

6. ANOTHER CATHOLIC PRIEST, BROTHER DOMINGOS MAIA LEITE, IN A LONG STORY SAYS THAT A RECENT ISSUE OF TELESPAK, AN INTERNAL BULLETIN OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BISHOPS, CALLED THE ATTENTION OF ITS READER TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S STATEMENT: QUOTE IT IS CHEAPER TO EXPEND ONE DOLLAR PER PERSON IN RESEARCH BEFORE OTHER BIRTHS THAN FIVE DOLLARS AFTER BIRTH WITH FOOD FOR ONE MORE MOUTH UNQUOTE. END SUMMARY.

7. COMMENT: UNIFORM USE OF THE WORD QUOTE STERILIZATION UNQUOTE IN ALL NEWS REPORTS THIS SUBJECT IN BOTH SAO PAULO AND RIO DE JANEIRO NEWSPAPERS AND BRAZILIAN DOMESTIC WIRE SERVICES APPEARS

TO STEM FROM USE OF THAT TERM BY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH CRITICS OF BIRTH CONTROL. LINKING OF AMERICANS, WHETHER PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES OR THE USG IN HEADLINES EITHER BY IMPLICATION OR BY CLEAR STATEMENTS IS ALSO A CONSTANT OF NEWS REPORTS. FOREIGNERS ARE USUALLY UNDERSTOOD TO BE AMERICANS IN STORIES SINCE MENTION OF MISSIONARIES, USUALLY PRESBYTERIANS, APPEAR IN ALL REPORTS.

8. THIS ISSUE IS ASSUMING THE PROPORTIONS OF A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST AMERICANS AS CONSPIRATORS TO DEPRIVE BRAZIL OF THE POPULATION NEEDED FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE AMAZON AND OTHER EMPTY AREAS OF THE COUNTRY WITH FREQUENT MENTION OF QUOTE THIS CRIME AGAINST THE NATION UNQUOTE WITH NO QUALIFICATION OR ATTRIBUTION EITHER IN PRESS HEADLINES OR SUBHEADS OR WHEN QUOTING CHURCH OR POLITICAL SPOKESMEN.

9. JORNAL DO BRASIL HEADLINED QUOTE IVO ARZUA (AGRICULTURE MINISTER) WILL DENOUNCE MASS STERILIZATION IN THE AMAZON UNQUOTE. STORY FROM BRASILIA SAID QUOTE AGRICULTURE MINISTER IVO ARZUA SAID HE WILL DENOUNCE TO THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH THE

CTIONS OF NORTH AMERICANS EVANGELICAL MISSIONS THAT ARE CONDUCTING

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MASS STERILIZATIONS OF WOMEN IN THE INTERIOR OF THE NORTH OF THE NATION, PRINCIPALLY IN THE MUNICIPALITIES LOCATED ALONG THE BELEM-BRASILIA HIGHWAY.

QUOTE SR. ARZUA LEARNED PERSONALLY OF THE FACTS UPON INTERVIEWING SOME WOMEN IN THE VILLAGES OF ESTREITO IN MARANHAO AND UPON GATHERING OTHER INFORMATION DISCOVERED BY MEMBERS OF THE PARTY OF THE MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORTATION AND PLANNING WHO WERE MAKING AN INSPECTION TRIP ALONG THE ROAD LAST WEEKEND UNQUOTE. TUTHILL
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Action P 032325Z MAY 67
ARA FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
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H REF: RIO DE JANEIRO 10566
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IO RECIFE FOR AMBASSADOR

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USIA 10. THE STORY IN JORNAL DO BRASIL THEN SAYS THE TRANSPORT AND
NSC PLANNING MINISTERS DID NOT INVESTIGATE BIRTH CONTROL ACTIVITIES
INR IN THE AREA SINCE THEY WERE WITH GOVERNOR OF GOIAS OCTAVIO LAGE
CIA WHILE THE AGRICULTURE MINISTER VISITED HOMES IN THE AREA
NSA ACCOMPANIED BY REPORTERS ASKING WOMEN ABOUT BIRTH CONTROL
DOD ACTIVITIES BY MISSIONARIES. THE STORY DESCRIBES THE MISSIONARY
SCI TECHNIQUE AS AN APPROACH WITH GIFTS OF POWDERED MILK, MEDICINES,
IGA AND OFFERS OF HEALTH TREATMENT FOR THEIR CHILDREN. WOMEN ARE
AID THEN INVITED TO JOIN A MOTHER'S CLUB, THE STORY SAYS, AND
PG SPIRAL PLASTIC INTRA-UTERINE DEVICES ARE SUPPLIED AND INSERTED
E FOR THOSE WHO QUOTE ARE CONVINCED BY THE NORTH AMERICANS TO
SCA UNDERTAKE TREATMENT THAT WOULD MAKE THEM STRONG AND HEALTHY
SCS AS THEIR CHILDREN AND WOULD AVOID CHILDREN WHO WOULD SUFFER
HEW HUNGER AND LIVE IN MISERY UNQUOTE. THE STORY ALSO STATES QUOTE
UNMARRIED GIRLS INTERVIEWED (BY THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE)
RSR REVEALED THAT THE OPERATION OF STERILIZATION CONSISTS OF THE
INTRODUCTION OF A PLASTIC DEVICE IN THE FORM OF A SERPENTINE IN
THE UTERUS, THEREBY AVOIDING THAT MALE SPERMS REACH THAT AREA.
THEY (THE GIRLS) SAID THAT WHILE THE FEMALE ORGANISM DOES NOT
ACUSTOM ITSELF TO THE APARATUS DURING THREE OF FOUR MONTHS,
A WOMEN HAS DAILY MENSTRUATIONS UNQUOTE. COMMENT: THE SCIENTIFIC
ERRORS AND FRIGHT TECHNIQUE USED IN THIS STORY SELECTED AT
RANDOM FROM RIO NEWSPAPER'S GIVES THE FLAVOR OF THE EXTENT TO
WHICH THE ENTIRE BIRTH CONTROL PROBLEM AND US PRIVATE OR
GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IS BEING DISTORTED BY EVEN THE BEST
NEWSPAPER'S IN BRAZIL.

11. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL REACTION: THE NEWS PEG FOR STORIES
IN THE PRESS MAY 3 IS THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT RELEASED BY MINISTER
OF HEALTH LEONEL MIRANDA. TEXT FOLLOWS:

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QUOTE IN VIEW OF THE NEWS ITEMS ABOUT THE USE OF CONTRACEPTIVES IN PLANNED CAMPAIGNS BY FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS, PRINCIPALLY IN THE AMAZON REGION, THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH CLARIFIES:

1. A SEVERE INVESTIGATION IS UNDERWAY THROUGH THE FEDERAL OFFICES OF HEALTH AND CONTROL OF THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF RURAL ENDEMIC DISEASES TO ESTABLISH THE TRUTH OF THESE FACTS; 2) REAFFIRMS THE POSITION OF THE MINISTRY ON THIS SUBJECT WHICH IS BASED ON THE POLICY ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION; 3) THIS POLICY WAS ADOPTED DURING A CONGRESS ATTENDED BY NATIONS WHICH FAVOR AND WHICH OPPOSE STATE PARTICIPATION IN BIRTH CONTROL PROGRAM; 4) A RESOLUTION ON THIS SUBJECT WAS PASSED AT THE 19TH ASSEMBLY ON HEALTH IN 1966; 5) THIS RESOLUTION AFFIRMED THAT STUDIES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SHOULD CONTINUE IN THIS FIELD; 6) IT WAS RESOLVED THAT A DECISION TO INTERFERE IN THE PROCESS OF FAMILY LIMITATION IS A SUBJECT OF EXCLUSIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH COUPLE AND IS NOT OF THE COMPETENCE OF THE STATE UNQUOTE.

12. DIARIO DE NOTICIAS HEADLINED STATEMENT BY HEALTH MINISTER ADVISER OLAVO PEREIRA DE CORDIS SAYING QUOTE GOVERNMENT WILL PUNISH THE PRESBYTERIANS WHO STERILIZED THREE THOUSAND WOMEN UNQUOTE. PARAPHRASED REPORT ON HIS STATEMENT CARRIED BY DIARIO DE NOTICIAS INCLUDE: QUOTE AMERICAN MISSIONARIES ARE BREAKING THE LAW WHICH PROHIBITS THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE BY LAYMEN AND FOREIGN PHYSICIANS AND WHICH ALSO PROHIBITS ANY TYPE OF GROUP OR MASS BIRTH CONTROL INFORMATION PROGRAM UNQUOTE.

13. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SPOKESMEN IN RIO HAVE DECLINED COMMENT ON THE ISSUE SAYING SYNODS IN THE AREAS IN QUESTION DECIDE LOCAL POLICIES.

14. THE ISSUE WAS FIRST RAISED IN TUESDAY EDITIONS OF RIO PAPERS QUOTING PAPERS IN BELEM IN THE STATE OF PARA AND SAO LUIS IN THE STATE OF MARANHAO CARRYING STORIES ON VIEWS OF THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. BIRTH CONTROL WAS ALSO DENOUNCED AT MAY DAY RALLIES IN SANTO ANDRE, AN INDUSTRIAL SUBURB OF SAO PAULO AND IN BELEM BY THE ARCHBISHOP THERE. (SEE REFTEL).

15. SEVERAL OPPOSITION CONGRESSMEN HAVE CALLED FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF THE BIRTH CONTROL ACTIVITY REPORTS, ALWAYS IN THE CONTEXT OF DEFENDING BRAZIL AGAINST A FOREIGN CONSPIRACY.

16. A BRASILIA REPORT THAT CONGRESSMEN JOSE MARIO MAGALHAES OF THE OPPOSITION MDB (MINAS GERAIS) HAS OBTAINED 100 OF NEEDED 137 SIGNATURES TO OPEN A CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION WAS REFUTED BY CONGRESSMAN BENEDITO FERREIRA OF GOIAS WHO SAID:

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QUOTE AS FOR THE ACCUSATIONS BEING MADE AGAINST THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION BY THE NEWSPAPER ULTIMA HORA AND MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION INCLUDING SENATOR AURELIO VIANA, I HAVE BEEN TO THE PARTS OF THE AMAZON MENTIONED AND CAN REFUTE ENERGETICALLY THE INTRIGUE DESTINED TO IMPEDE THAT THE EUCUMENICAL COUNCIL STAIN THE GREATEST OF ITS OBJECTIVES, WHICH IS THE UNION OF ALL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST ATHEIST COMMUNISM UNQUOTE.

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TO RUEA/SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEA/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY
RUEA/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
RUEA/AMCONSUL RECIFE
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REF: RIO DE JANEIRO 10607

REC'D FOR AMEMBASSY

IN SUMMARY: A SERIES OF ARTICLES IN THE JOURNAL DO BRASIL AND OTHER MEDIA REPORTS THAT THESE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONARIES ARE PREACHING MASS STERILIZATION OF BRAZILIAN WOMEN IN THE NORTH.

LONG STORIES ON BIRTH CONTROL IN AMAZON REGION IN WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE START OF A CAMPAIGN POTENTIALLY HARMFUL TO BROTHERLY RELATIONS. STORIES FOLLOW UP YESTERDAY'S 'ULTIMA HORA' AND 'JORNAL DA IMPRENSA' STATEMENTS BY AN AMERICAN REGION DOCTOR AND A BRAZILIAN BISHOP.

2. A REPORT FROM BRAZILIA SAYS MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS WILL DENOUNCE TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH THAT AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONARIES ARE PREACHING MASS STERILIZATION OF BRAZILIAN WOMEN IN THE NORTH.

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