

# AIRGRAM

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*Bunder* UNCLASSIFIED A-70  
HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : RIO DE JANEIRO, BRASILIA, SAO PAULO

FROM : Amconsul RECIFE DATE: August 20, 1968

SUBJECT : Dom Helder Camara's Non-Violence Campaign

REF : Rio's A-942, August 1, 1968, Enclosure No. 1

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The Archdiocese of Olinda and Recife recently made public the names of the 42 bishops who have formally pledged their support for Dom Helder Camara's "Liberating Moral Pressure" movement designed to secure basic reforms in society through the techniques of non-violence. Each of the 42 bishops signed a manifesto supporting the movement during the recent meetings of the National Conference of Brazilian Bishops (CNBB) in Rio de Janeiro.

Belying the movement's claim to broad across-the-board support within the Church, the majority of the signatories (24 of 42) are from the Northeast, 1/3 three are from the North and the remaining 15 are from the Center-South, including seven from the state of Sao Paulo alone.

1/ For the purposes of pastoral activity, the Church divides the Northeast into three sub-regions: Northeast I, composed of the states of Maranhao, Piaui, and Ceara; Northeast II, including Rio Grande do Norte, Parãiba, Pernambuco, and Alagoas; and Northeast III, including Sergipe and Bahia. For the purposes of this report, therefore, "Northeast" is taken to mean this nine-state area.

Enclosure: att 4/ List of signatories

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Aside from providing an interesting biographic note on each of the individual signers, the distinctly regional composition of the manifesto's support tends to confirm what many informed observers have long believed, i.e. progressive sentiment within the Brazilian Church finds its greatest expression in the Northeast. The strong regional flavor of the movement is also a measure of the task which Dom Helder and his fellow progressive churchmen must face if they are to transform their "Liberating Moral Pressure" movement into a campaign of truly national scope.

A listing of the signatories is attached.

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SIGNATORIES TO MANIFESTO IN SUPPORT OF  
"LIBERATING MORAL PRESSURE" MOVEMENT

Helder Camara, Archbishop of Olinda and Recife (Pernambuco)  
Jose Maria Pires, Archbishop of Paraiba (Paraiba)  
Fernando Gomes, Archbishop of Goiania (Goias)  
Joao de Sousa Lima, Archbishop of Manaus (Amazonas)  
Jose Lamartine Soares, Auxiliary Bishop of Olinda and Recife (Pernambuco)  
Joao Batista do Mota e Albuquerque, Archbishop of Vitoria (Espirito Santo)  
Waldir Calheiros, Bishop of Barra do Pirai (Rio de Janeiro)  
Jose Vicente Tavora, Archbishop of Aracaju (Sergipe)  
Tiago Cloin, Bishop of Barra (Bahia)  
Helio Pascoal, Bishop of Livramento (Bahia)  
Giocondo Grotti, Bishop-Prelate of Acre and Purus (Acre and Amazonas)  
Marcos Antonio Noronha, Bishop of Itabira (Minas Gerais)  
Milton Pereira, Bishop of Garanhuns (Pernambuco)  
David Picao, Bishop of Santos (Sao Paulo)  
Francisco Austregesilo Mesquita, Bishop of Afogados da Ingazeira (Pernambuco)  
Manuel Pereira da Costa, Bishop of Campina Grande (Paraiba)  
Walfrido Vieira, Bishop of Sobral (Ceara)  
Jose Freire Falcao, Bishop of Limoeiro do Norte (Ceara)  
Tomas Balduino, Bishop of Goias (Goias)  
Candido Padim, Bishop of Lorena (Sao Paulo)  
Aniger Melilo, Bishop of Piracicaba (Sao Paulo)  
Jorge Marcos de Oliveira, Bishop of Santo Andre (Sao Paulo)  
Bernardo Mieli, Archbishop Coadjutor of Ribeirao Preto (Sao Paulo)  
Arthur Horthuis, Bishop of Jales (Sao Paulo)  
Adelmo Machado, Archbishop of Maceio (Alagoas)  
Augusto Carvalho, Bishop of Caruaru (Pernambuco)  
Nivaldo Monte, Archbishop of Natal (Rio Grande do Norte)  
Manuel Tavares de Araujo, Bishop of Caico (Rio Grande do Norte)  
Jose Brandao de Castro, Bishop of Propria (Sergipe)  
Zacarias Rolim de Moura, Bishop of Cajazeiras (Paraiba)  
Antonio Batista Fragoso, Bishop of Crateus (Ceara)  
Luis Victor Sartori, Bishop of Santa Maria (Rio Grande do Sul)

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Clemente Isnard, Bishop of Nova Friburgo (Rio de Janeiro)  
Joao Jose da Motta e Albuquerque, Archbishop of S. Luiz  
(Maranhao)  
Manuel Lisboa, Bishop of Nazare (Pernambuco)  
Luiz Fernandes, Auxiliary Bishop of Vitoria (Espirito Santo)  
Eliseu de Oliveira, Auxiliary Bishop of Maceio (Alagoas)  
Severino Mariano de Aguiar, Bishop of Pesqueira (Pernambuco)  
Francisco Nierhoff, Bishop of Floresta (Pernambuco)  
Angelo Rivato, Bishop-Prelate of Ponta de Pedras (Paraiba)  
Serafim de Araujo, Auxiliary Bishop of Belo Horizonte  
(Minas Gerais)  
Manuel Edmilson, Auxiliary Bishop of Sao Luiz (Maranhao)  
Jose Thurler, Auxiliary Bishop of Sao Paulo (Sao Paulo)

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