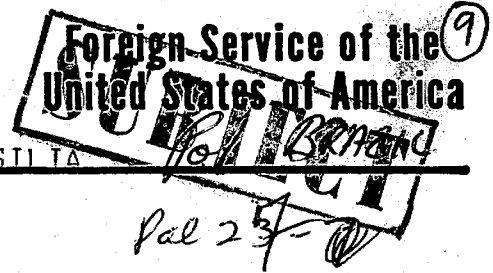


# TELEGRAM

INCOMING

BRASILIA



ACTION  
POL-2  
INFO  
FILES  
RF

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification

Control: 420

Recd:

24AUG67  
0955

R 232155Z AUG 67  
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7366  
INFO RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 889  
STATE GRNC  
BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ RIO DE JANEIRO 1332

SUBJ: GUERRILLA ARRESTS REPORTED, THEN DENIED

REFS: (A) BRASILIA 627; (B) SAO PAULO 218

1. LATEST CURRENT OF UNEASINESS, ESPECIALLY IN MILITARY-CIVILIAN RELATIONSHIPS, HAS BEEN REINFORCED BY RECENT REPORTS OF MORE GUERRILLA AND ESPIONAGE ACTIVITY AND BY ATTEMPTS TO IMPEACH ELECTED OFFICIALS. MILITARY CONCERNED ABOUT POTENTIAL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY (REF A) AND PRESS APPEARS TO BE BENT ON MAGNIFYING OR VIEWING WITH ALARM ALL MATTERS IN WHICH MILITARY INVOLVED.

2. USUALLY RELIABLE JORNAL DO BRASIL AUG 20 CARRIED. AND AUG 21 ULTIMA HORA REPEATED, BRIEF STORY THAT ARMY MANEUVERS IN EASTERN MATO GROSSO HAD RESULTED IN ARREST OF 170 PERSONS, POSSIBLY LINKED TO EXILED EX-DEPUTY LEONEL BRIZOLA AND TO UBERLANDIA WOULD-BE TERRORISTS. STORIES ADMITTED THAT RIO ARMY AUTHORITIES DENIED ANY ARRESTS, BUT SAID VERIFICATION COMES FROM TROOPS THEMSELVES UPON RETURN TO BARRACKS AND ADDED THAT SOME OF PRISONERS HAD CONFESSED LINKS TO "GROUPS OF ELEVEN" ORGANIZED BY BRIZOLA. AUG 22 PRESS DUALL OV LONG AND STRONG DENIALS BY ARMY LEADERS (INCLUDING ARMY MIN LYRA TAVERES AND 2ND ARMY COMDR SIZENO SARMENTO), WHO CLAIM THAT COUNTER-INSURGENCY MANEUVERS HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR LONG TIME AND INVOLVED SIMULATED GUERRILLAS WHO MAY HAVE BEEN BASIS FOR STORIES ABOUT "PRISONERS." ESTADO DE SAO PAULO REPORTS THAT ARMY MINISTER PREFERS IGNORE MOST ERRONEOUS REPORTS OF THIS TYPE FOR FEAR OF BLOWING THEM UP OUT OF PROPORTION.

3. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENT, ARREST OF "RUSSIAN SPY" WAS REPORTED BY ESTADO DE SAO PAULO AUG 17. STORY SAID AGENT WAS APPREHENDED BY FEDERAL POLICE IN SANTOS JUNE 19 HAD HAS

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FORM FS-412  
8-65

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Declassified Authority: 43265  
By: Amanda Weimer Date:  
05-13-2015

# TELEGRAM

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Foreign Service of the  
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Classification

Control:

Recd:

BEEN QUESTIONED ABOUT HIS ATTEMPTS TO GET MAPS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS ABOUT HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS AND METALS FACTORIES AND ABOUT TRUP HE MADE THROUGH MATO GROSSO AND GOIAS.

4. BOTH STORIES CAME AT TIME (AS WELL AS NEAR PLACE) OF IMPEACHEMNT CRISIS INVOLVING MATTO GROSSO GOVERNOR PEDROSSIAN REPORTED IN REF. E. MILITARY ROLE IN SURROUNDING LEGISLATURE, REPORTEDLY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR, WAS PLAYED UP IN PRESS.

5. ALSO IN NEWS IS SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OF MAYOR OF NOVA IGUACU IN STATE OF RIO BY CITY COUNCIL. COUNCIL REPORTEDLY TOOK ACTION AFTER HEAVY PRESSURE BROUGHT TO BEAR BY ARMY CAPTAIN, COMMANDER OF ARMY MILITARY POLICE PLATOON.

6. COMMENT: IF MILITARY CONTINUE TO BE IDENTIFIED, WRONGLY OR RIGHTLY, WITH POLITICAL DISTURBANCES, IMPRESSION WILL PROBABLY BE GIVEN - PROBABLY ERRONEOUSLY - THAT HARDLINERS ARE GAINING UPPER HAND. TUTHILL  
BT

1030/RM

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OUTGOING

AmEmbassy Office Brasilia

Foreign Service of the  
United States of America

*for Brasil*

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Classification

Charge:

Control: 735

Date: Aug. 22, 1967  
1630

ACTION: AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO 597

BRASILIA 735

**SUBJECT**

SUBJ: Guerrilla Arrests Reported, then Denied

REFS: (A) Brasilia ~~62~~ 627; (B) Sao Paulo 218

1. Latent current of uneasiness, especially in military-civilian relationships, has been reinforced by recent reports of more guerrilla and espionage activity and by attempts to impeach elected officials. Military concerned about potential subversive activity (Ref A) and press appears to be bent on magnifying or viewing with alarm all matters in which military involved.

2. Usually reliable Jornal do Brasil Aug 20 carried, and Aug 21 Ultima Hora repeated, brief story that Army maneuvers in eastern Mato Grosso had resulted in arrest of 170 persons, possibly linked to exiled ex-deputy Leonel Brizola and to Uberlandia would-be terrorists. Stories admitted that Rio Army authorities denied any arrests, but said verification comes from troops themselves upon return to

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2

Charge:

Classification

Control:

Date:

barracks and added that some of prisoners had confessed links to "Groups of Eleven" organized by Brizola. Aug. 22 press full of long and strong denials by Army leaders (including Army Min Lyra ~~de~~ Tavares and 2nd Army Commander Sizeno Sarmento), who claim that counter-insurgency maneuvers had been planned for long time and involved simulated guerrillas who may have been basis for stories about "prisoners." Estado de Sao Paulo reports that Army Minister prefers ignore most erroneous reports of this type for fear of blowing them up out of proportion.

3. In other development, arrest of "Russian spy" was reported by Estado de Sao Paulo Aug 17. Story said agent was apprehended by federal police in Santos June 29 and has been questioned about his attempts to get maps and other documents about hydroelectric projects and metals factories and about trip he made through Mato Grosso and Goias.

4. Both stories come at time (as well as near place) of impeachment crisis involving Mato Grosso Governor

~~Red Cross is reported in Ref. By Military police in~~  
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Pedrossian reported in Ref B. Military role in surrounding legislature, reportedly in support of governor, was played up in press. Also in news in similar vein is impeachment of mayor of Novo Iguacu in State of Rio and involvement of local military commander pressuring city council into action.

5. Comment: If military continue to be identified, wrongly or rightly with political disturbances, impression will probably be given--probably erroneously--that hardliners are gaining upper hand.

6. Action requested: Any further information

EO50x1

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and comment before transmission to Dept.

GP-3

TUTHILL

HSOkun

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Concurrence:

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