

# AIRGRAM

FOR RM USE ONLY

RM/R	REC	AF
1	1	
ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR
E	P	IO
4	1	2
L	FBO	AID
		12
AGR	COM	FRB
	10	
INT	LAB	TAR
	6	
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
	10	
OSD	USIA	NSA
		3
	HEW	7

22 A-110 NO. UNCLASSIFIED HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE 1963 OCT 29 AM 7 44 *Jm*

INFO: RIO DE JANEIRO

FROM : Amconsul RECIFE DATE: October 23, 1963

SUBJECT : Demonstrations in Fortaleza over Increased Bus Fares

REF :

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 RM/AN BUREAU OF  
 ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION/AN AFFAIRS  
 BRANCH  
 OCT 29 1963  
 DATE: October 23, 1963

According to reports reaching Recife from Fortaleza, there have been large-scale demonstrations marked by considerable violence protesting the imposition of increased bus fares. The new fares, which became effective October 20, provide for increases, on an ascending scale, of up to one hundred percent over previous fares.

The demonstrations began October 21, led by the students of the Liceu do Ceara who tore the paving blocks from the street by the school and then used them to bombard first the passing busses and later the police when these appeared. The police first resorted to throwing the paving stones back at the students and later fired into the air, with the students finally retiring from the Liceu. Four policemen were injured, none critically. There were no reports of students injured, although some arrests were made. One Recife paper claimed that the President of the Student Association of the University of Ceara, RAIMUNDO LEITE, had been arrested.

A more serious incident occurred October 22, when elements of the Policia Militar reportedly fired into a group of demonstrating railway workers, seriously wounding two. Following this incident the situation has become more critical with rumors of general strike beginning to circulate. Some shops have apparently closed their doors fearing damage by demonstrators.

The mayor of Fortaleza, MURILLO BORGES MOREIRA, has come under special criticism by the demonstrators, since

FILE  
 No Action  
 ARA:LA/BR  
 OCT 30 1963

FORM 4-62 DS-323 UNCLASSIFIED FOR DEPT. USE ONLY  In  Out

Drafted by: RAGodfrey:rcj Contents and Classification Approved by:

Clearances:

DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority NND 939529

UNCLASSIFIED

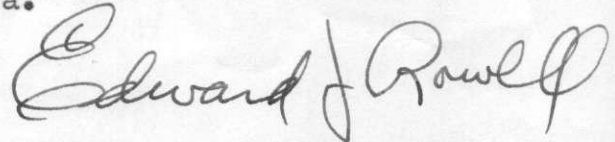
page 2

A-40

Amconsul RECIFE

it is claimed he assumed an active role in supporting the increase in bus fares, having defended the proposed increase at a public forum held several days ago at the Liceu do Ceara. A major point of criticism of the new fares by the workers is that the criteria of distance and the lack of paved streets were used to justify larger increases in fares in those undeveloped outlying sections where many workers live.

Governor VIRGILIO TAVORA is expected to return to Fortaleza not later than tomorrow from his visit in Rio and Brasilia. He has reportedly sought the intervention of federal troops to restore order, but the reaction to his appeal to the Minister of Justice was an offer by the Minister to send an observer. Meanwhile, a popular movement has been launched in Fortaleza to seek the impeachment of Mayor Borges Moreira.



Edward J. Rowell  
Minister Consul General

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 939529