

34



Department of State

Pol 15 Bray
XR PPB 9B
TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 573

PAGE 01 SAO PA 00951 252200Z

87
ACTION ARA 20

INFO OCT 01, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 00, H 00

INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 03, RSC 01, PRS 01, SS 20, AID 28, PC 04

RSR 01, /105 W

089127

O R 252125Z SEP 69
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1668
INFO AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONSUL RECIFE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAO PAULO 951

JOINT STATE USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER CHALLENGES REGIME CENSORSHIP

REF: BRASILIA'S 410

1. FEDERAL CENSORS CONFISCATED ABOUT 30,000 COPIES OF O ESTADO'S SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21 EDITION AS REPORTED TO RIO BY AMEMBASSY BRASILIA. SEIZURE WAS MOTIVATED BY EDITORIAL STRONGLY CRITICIZING REVOLUTIONARY REGIME FOR DESTROYING POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS. ALSO CHARGED THAT MILITARY BY ASSUMING ROLE OF ELECTORAL BODY WOULD TAKE COUNTRY TO CHAOS.
2. O ESTADO'S OWNERS PUBLISHED IN AFTERNOON JORNAL DA TARDE TODAY FULL TEXT OF INTERAMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION'S PROTEST AGAINST FEDERAL SEIZURE OF SUNDAY EDITION WHICH HAD BEEN TELEGRAPHED TO MILITARY TRIUMPHIRATE.
3. PROTEST CALLED SEIZURE "CRASS VIOLATION OF FREEDOM OF PRESS" EXPRESSED HOPE JUNTA "WILL PUT AN END TO THIS AND ALL OTHER SPECIES OF CENSORSHIP."
4. COMMENT: MESQUITA BROTHERS, OWNERS O ESTADO AND JORNAL

Sao Paulo 951
9/25/69

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

47

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 969000



Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAO PA 00951 252200Z

DA TARDE, HAVE OPENLY CHALLENGED REGIME IN MANNER CALCULATED WEAKEN IT FURTHER. BECAUSE OF MORAL STATURE OF LATE FATHER THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE PUBLISH MANY THINGS REGIME DOES NOT LIKE, BUT THIS MUCH MORE SERIOUS. UNLESS HELPED BY POWERFUL ALLIES INSIDE REGIME ITSELF, SUCH AS GENERAL SARMENTO, MESQUITAS CANNOT EXPECT AVOID RETALIATION. IF THIS HAPPENS, INTERNATIONAL MEDIA CERTAIN TO CAMPAIGN IN DEFENSE ONE OF WORLD'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS NEWSPAPERS.
WIGHT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 969000