

# AIRGRAM

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A-401

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TO : Department of State 1964 FEB 16 AM 11 13

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BRANCHDEPARTMENT OF STATE  
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FEB 17 1964

FROM : AmEmbassy PRAGUE

DATE: February 14, 1964

SUBJECT : Visit to Czechoslovakia of Brazilian Communist Party  
Leader PRESTES

REF :

FILE  
No Action  
ARA:LA/BR  
R. Burton

FEB 28 1964

Secretary General of the Brazilian Communist Party Luis Carlos PRESTES, accompanied by his wife, arrived in Prague by air on February 11 for a visit at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, according to "Rude Pravo" of February 12. Indicative of the importance attached by the Czech side to the visit was the presence at the airport of Czechoslovak Central Committee Secretary V. KOUCKY, generally regarded as the Party's leading ideological expert, and B. LASTOVICKA, head of the International Department of the Central Committee.

On February 12 Prestes met with Antonin NOVOTNY, First Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, for what was described by "Rude Pravo" of February 13 as an "exchange of views on the main questions of the international communist movement and on problems of current world development." The meeting was said to have taken place in an atmosphere of "comradely friendship which characterizes relations between the Czechoslovak and Brazilian Communist Parties." The meeting also was described as having confirmed again "the absolute loyalty of both parties to the Moscow Declaration and Statement and the identity of views on current questions of the international communist movement."

COMMENT: From the above press reports, it is clear that the Sino-Soviet ideological conflict was a topic of discussion at the meeting between the two Communist leaders. The Prestes visit to Prague may well be part of a new round of preliminary soundings among leaders of major communist parties supporting the Soviet position in the Sino-Soviet controversy, prior

DECONTROLLED FOLLOWING FEBRUARY 1, 1968

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John D. Iams

Clearances:

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to the calling of a conference of all communist parties or a meeting  
between Soviet and Chinese Communist Party leaders.

For the Ambassador:

*Frank G. Trink*

Frank G. Trink  
Second Secretary of Embassy

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