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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

1966 AUG 22 PM 2 34

FROM : Amembassy RIO DE JANEIRO

DATE: August 18, 1966

SUBJECT: Visit of Professor Konrad Bloch of Harvard, Nobel Laureate in Medicine and Physiology

REF : A-1349 of 6/4/65 re Nobel Laureate Urey

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE.

1. After having participated and lectured in the III International Congress of Pharmacology (see A-105, August 4, 1966), Prof. Bloch arrived in Rio on July 27 as a guest of the Brazilian Government. He was met at the airport by officials of the Israeli Confederation of Brazil, the Embassy of Israel, the Brazilian Foreign Office and the Office of the Scientific Attaché on behalf of the Embassy and USIS.

2. Prof. Bloch's program in Rio included lectures at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, and a visit to the Guanabara State Legislature.

3. At the University (formerly the University of Brazil) he was given the "Doctor Honoris Causa" degree on July 27, 1966.

4. In another ceremony the same day in the Legislative Assembly of Guanabara, he received the title of "Citizen of Rio", bestowed upon him by the Assembly through its President, Deputy Augusto do Amaral Peixoto.

5. In accepting this title, Prof. Bloch stated that he did so "with great satisfaction and deep gratitude, as an expression of the spirit of friendship existing between Brazil and my country, the United States of America. The word citizen has a special significance for me. When I and

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all the Jewish people in Central Europe were deprived of their citizenship a couple of decades ago, the countries of the American Continent, from the North to the South, opened their doors for thousands of us, offering to us again the opportunity of a dignified life."

6. The Jewish community offered a reception in his honor and the U.S. Ambassador received Prof. Bloch and his hosts at the Embassy residence.

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