

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

SUBJECT

INCOMING RIO DE JANEIRO

LAB 6-1

ACTION: POL-2

INFO

AMB

DOM

MINECON

USIS

ECON

POL/R

RDG

BRAS-2

FILE

LABOR

OR 011525Z FEB 67
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1114
INFO RUESUA/AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO 220
RUESUP/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 15
RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 273
STATE GRNC
BT
CONFIDENTIAL MONTEVIDEO 1529

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Control: 021

Recd: FEB 1
1600

SUBJECT: STRIKE AT AIRPORT MAY CONTINUE

REF: MONTEVIDEO 1526, 1518, 1506

1. ON EVENING JANUARY 31 URUGUAYAN AIR FORCE TECHNICIANS REPLACED STRIKING CIVILIAN TECHNICIANS AT NATIONAL AIRPORT (REFTEL) AND AVERTED INTERRUPTIONS INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL TO AND FROM MONTEVIDEO. AIRPORT CONTINUES OPERATING UNDER AIR FORCE TODAY. STRIKE SCHEDULED END AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 1 BUT UNION NOW THREATENING POSSIBLE EXTENSION PROTEST USE OF AIR FORCE PERSONNEL.

2. MEANWHILE, COMMUNIST-CREATED TRADE UNION COORDINATING BOARD FOR GOU AUTONOMOUS ENTERPRISES (MSC) CANCELLED 48-HOUR

STRIKE SCHEDULED FEBRUARY 1-2. ACCORDING UNION, NATIONAL COUNCIL GOVERNMENT (NCG) PRESIDENT HEBER ASSURED THAT NCG WOULD TAKE FINAL ACTION SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET (CONTAINING PUBLIC EMPLOYEE WAGE INCREASES) AT NEXT REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 2. HOWEVER, GOU CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES' UNIONS (BOTH DEMOCRATIC ANFP AND COMMUNIST COFE- WHICH TOGETHER REPRESENT ABOUT 40,000 GOVERNMENT CLERICAL WORKERS) BEGAN 48-HOUR STRIKE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED BY MSC. PRESIDENT ANFP, WHO HAD DECIDED JOIN STRIKE ORDER PREVENT COMMUNISTS REAPING PROPAGANDA BENEFITS TAKING TRADE UNION INITIATIVE, NOW ASSERTS THAT IF HE CANCELLED STRIKE PLANS WOULD APPEAR HE DEPENDENT ON COMMUNISTS FOR ANFP TRADE UNION POLICIES. MOREOVER, HE ADDED, HEBER ASSURANCES NCG ACTION MERELY HALF OF PROBLEM. MAJOR PROBLEM IS OBTAINING LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENT BUDGET INTO LAW.

GP-3

AMERICAN EMBASSY
BRASLIA, BRAZIL

FEB 3 10 27 AM '67

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