

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

INCOMING

BRASILIA

13-2

ACTION
POL-2
INFO
FILES
RF

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

Control: 063

Recd: 03APR68
1140

P 021745Z APR 68
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 666
INFO RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 160
RUESUA/AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO 524
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS SAO PAULO 1422

ACTION COPY

ACTION TAKEN

SUBJECT: REACTION TO STUDENT DEATH

REF: SAO PAULO'S 1418

1. IN ADDITION THREE-DAY MOURNING PERIOD AND ONE DAY STRIKE ENDING IN PEACEFUL MARCH EVENING APRIL 1 (SEE REFTEL) IN SAO PAULO CITY STUDENTS IN OTHER CITIES OF STATE ALSO MADE PROTESTS. STUDENTS OF MOJI DAS CURZES, SAO JOSE DOS CAMPOS AND CAMPINAS DEMONSTRATED ON MARCH 30.
2. THIRTY PRIESTS OF SAO PAULO SIGNED A MANIFESTO OF SOLIDARITY WITH STUDENTS AND CONDEMNING POLICE VIOLENCE. BISHOP DOM JORGE MARCOS DE OLIVEIRA OF SANTO ANDRE ISSUED SEPARATE STRONGER MANIFESTO ASSERTING WHEN STUDENTS TRY UNITE BRAZIL, APPEAL FOR MORE VACANCIES AND BETTER EDUCATION, AND DEMAND BETTER LIFE FOR BRAZILIANS, THEN POLICE "SPECIALISTS IN KILLING BRAZILIANS" STOP THEM WITH BULLETS. DOM JORGE HAS SCHEDULED A MASS FOR APRIL 7.
3. DEPUTIES OF ARENA AND MDB IN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CONDEMNED POLICE VIOLENCE IN DEATH OF STUDENT AND EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY WITH STUDENTS. SAO PAULO'S CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY SUBSCRIBED TO TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR NEGRAO DE LIMA PROTESTING VIOLENCE OF POLICE AGAINST STUDENTS.
4. GOVERNOR ABRER SODRE AND MAYOR FARIA LIMA HAVE NOT COMMENTED ON SPECIFIC INCIDENT OTHER THAN EXPRESS REGRET THAT IT HAPPENED. BOTH MEN IN RECENT STATEMENTS, HOWEVER, HAVE STRESSED NEED OFR DIALOGUE WITH STUDENTS.
5. NEWSPAPERS GENERALLY CONDEMN ACTION OF POLICE AND IMPROPER BEHAVIOR OF SOME STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONAL AGITATORS. FOLHA DE

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Control:

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SAO PAULO STATES STUDENT UNREST CANNOT BE DISASSOCIATED FROM POLITICAL UMPASSE EXISTING IN COUNTRY. IF LEGITIMATE POLITICAL ACTION IS DENIED PEOPLE THEN EXTRA-LEGAL ACTION IS INEVITABLE ACCORDING FOLHA. O ESTADO DEPICTS GOVERNMENT FACING CHOICE. FIRST ALTERNATIVE IS ACCEPT STUDENT AGITATION AS NATURAL AND WORK TO SATISFY LIGITIMATE STUDENT DEMANDS THUS REDUCING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNISTS TO USE. SECOND ALTERNATIVE IS REPRESS STUDENT AGITATION AS DO DICTATORSHIPS IN ARGENTINA OR LEFTIST TOTALITARIAN COUNTRIES. O ESTADO SEES GOVERNMENT CHOOSING SECOND ALTERNATIVE AND CAUSING INCREASED AGITATION. VICTIMS OF LATTER COURSE WILL BE BRAZILIAN PEOPLE AND DEMOCRATIC STUDENTS. RADICAL LEFTISTS WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS.

6. GENERAL SYZENO SARMENTO COMMANDER OF SECOND ARMY SAID HE RECOGNIZES AS LEGITIMATE RIGHT OF STUDENTS TO DEMONSTRATE AS RESULT DEATH OF COMRADE ADDING THAT DEMONSTRATION SHOULD BE PEACEFUL.

7. COMMENT: WHILE DEPLORING ACTION SOME RADICAL STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONAL AGITATORS, GENERAL SENTIMENT IN SAO PAULO APPEARS BE THAT POLICE ACTED IRRESPONSIBLY IN FIRING ON STUDENTS.

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3. DEPUTIES OF ARENS AND ROR IN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEMAND POLICE VIOLENCE IN DEATH OF STUDENT AND EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY WITH STUDENTS. SAO PAULO'S CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY SUBSCRIBED TO TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR ABRAS DE LIMA PROTESTING VIOLENCE OF POLICE AGAINST STUDENTS.

4. GOVERNOR ABRAS SORE AND MAYOR FARIA LIMA HAVE NOT COMMENTED ON SPECIFIC INCIDENT OTHER THAN EXPRESS REGRET THAT IT HAPPENED. BOTH MEN IN RECENT STATEMENTS, HOWEVER, HAVE STRESSED NEED FOR DIALOGUE WITH STUDENTS.

9. NEW PAPERS GENERALLY CONDEMN ACTION OF POLICE AND CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR OF SOME STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONAL AGITATORS.

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