ACTION: POL-2

CONFIDENTIAL

CHRON

0 F 2116252 JUN 68
FM AMBASSAD ORIO DE JANEIRO
RO RUE HC/SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 2433
INFO RUELC/AMBASSAD ORIO BRASILIA PRIORITY 1587
RUESUP/AMCONSUL SÃO PAULO 1265
RUESEI/AMCONSUL RECIFE 1341
STATE GRNC

CONFIDENTIAL RIO DE JANEIRO 9108

SUBJECT: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS

REF: RIO 9093

1. STUDENT MEETING AT FEDERAL UNIVERSITY RIO DE JANEIRO CONTINUED UNTIL AFTER 1900 HOURS JUNE 20 WITH PROFESSORS INCLUDING ACTING RECTOR CLEMENTINO FRAGA FILHO PARTICIPATING ON OCCASIONS. PRESS ESTIMATED 1500 STUDENTS ATTENDED. LEVEL OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL EXPENDITURES TO UNIVERSITIES, PAYMENT OF ANNUAL TUITION, STRUCTURE AND AUTONOMY OF UNIVERSITY AND REFORM PROPOSALS, DISCUSSED ALONG WITH USUAL STUDENT GRIEVANCES. STUDENTS RESOLVED TO GATHER JUNE 21 AT MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TO FORCE MINISTER TO COME DOWN FROM HIS OFFICE AND LISTEN TO THEIR COMPLAINTS. STUDENTS ALSO REPORTEDLY DEMANDED RELEASE OF ARRESTED STUDENTS BY NOON JUNE 21 OR THREAT OF ROUNDING UP POLICEMEN TO EXCHANGE FOR STUDENTS STILL DETAINED. ONE PRESIDENT PALMEIRA, ONE PRESIDENT TRAVASSOS AND CALABOUCA GROUP PRESIDENT BRIOT PLAYED PROMINENT ROLE. COMMITTEE OF FIVE STATE DEPUTIES WITNESSED PORTION OF PROCEEDINGS:

2. VERY HEAVY SECURITY FORCE RINGED UNIVERSITY AREA. THOUGH ACTING RECTOR ANNOUNCED POLICE AGREED WITHDRAW AND PERMIT STUDENTS TO LEAVE CAMPUS IF ORDER MAINTAINED, POLICE BEGAN PURSUE AND ARREST DEPARTING STUDENTS. POLICE EMPLOYED TEAR GAS AND VIOLENCE, JUGGED AS "EXTREME" BY ONE TRAINED OBSERVER. MORE THAN 400 WERE ARRESTED. SOME 1600 STUDENTS REMAINED AT UNIVERSITY UNTIL 2300 HOURS WHEN CONFUSING ORDERS TO SECURITY FORCES RESULTED IN CONFUSION AND PERMITTED THEIR DEPARTURE.

3. STATE SECURITY SECRETARY AGAIN WARNED THAT POLICE WILL REPRESS STUDENT MANIFESTATIONS WITH ENERGY AND THAT IF VIOLENCE TAKES PLACE "IT WILL ONLY MEAN DEFENSE OF SOLDIERS AGAINST STUDENT ATTACKS." COMMANDER OF FIRST ARMY ALSO RENEWED APPEAL

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4. AS OF MIDDAY JUNE 21, SMALL GROUPS OF STUDENTS AGAIN ON LOOSE IN CITY CENTER WITH POLICE IN TARDY PURSUIT. ONE GROUP PASSED EMBASSY BUILDING 1230 HOURS SMASHING SEVERAL LARGE PLATEGLASS EMBASSY WINDOWS. (NO INJURIES OCCURRED AT EMBASSY. ONE WINDSHIELD EMBASSY CAR BROKEN.) THIS GROUP HAD BEEN PART OF A LARGER GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 600 WHICH WAS DISPERSED IN ATTEMPT A FEW MINUTES EARLIER TO MARCH FROM CLOSED CALABUCAS RESTAURANT TO MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. REPORTEDLY, SOME 23 SHOTS WERE FIRED BY POLICE TO BREAK UP THIS GROUP. STUDENTS OBSERVED FROM EMBASSY USING TAXIS TO ENSURE MOBILITY. POLICE COORDINATING OPERATIONS IN CITY CENTER BY HELICOPTER.

GPH TUTTLE