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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Brazil

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SUBJECT Communist Character of the Universidade do Povo  
(People's University)  
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PAGES

ORIGIN

SUPPLEMENT

SOURCE

1. The Universidade do Povo (People's University) was founded early in 1946 by the Communist dominated Movimento Unificador dos Trabalhadores (AUT) to collaborate with the Communist Party by spreading the "alphabetization" program and teaching courses in Marxism and Leninism. Among its organizers were several party members and sympathizers. The principal speaker at the inauguration ceremonies of the university was Luiz Carlos Prestes, head of the Communist Party of Brazil.
2. The Universidade do Povo originally shared quarters with a Communist cell but moved to Avenida Venezuela 27, Distrito Federal, Rio de Janeiro, where it is now located, because it was felt that close identification with the Communist organization was affecting registration of students.
3. The university has publicly stated that it has no connection with the Communist Party. However, the rector, Dr. Americo Wanick, was formerly an active member of the party (although he is no longer known publicly as such) and is personally acquainted with Prestes; the Secretary General, Dr. Marcel Campos, is considered by Rio police to be a militant Communist and is secretary of the Communist Central Commission of the Alphabetization Commission; the Financial Secretary, Dr. Eduardo Prado Lopes, is a leading member of a Communist front organization called Associaçao Brasileiro dos Amigos do Povo Espanhol (ABAPE); the Secretary of Publicity, Dr. Carlos Alberto Costa Pinto, and the Organizational Secretary, Dr. Fride Ciornair, are both members of the Communist Party.
4. In late 1946 the university sponsored a concert to which tickets were sold both by the university and members of the Communist Party. The purpose of the concert, not disclosed by the university, was to raise money for the purchase of printing presses for Communist publications.

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 letter of 15 October 1973 from the  
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 Next Review Date: 2008

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