

FORM 30068 6-76

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IMMEDIATE
IN 1198973
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Intelligence Information Cable

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DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS

Classified by [redacted] Exempt from General Declassification Schedule of E.O. 11652 Exemption Category 2B (1) (2) Ineligible to Determine Date of Automatic Declassification

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

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COUNTRY: BRAZIL/ARGENTINA

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF ARGENTINE SOCIALIST LEADER CAUSING SECURITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS WITHIN BRAZIL

3.3(b)(1)

1. ON 22 AUGUST 1978 THE INTERNAL OPERATIONS DETACHMENT (DOI) OF THE SECOND ARMY ARRESTED TWENTY-TWO PERSONS WHO WERE ATTENDING OR ABOUT TO ATTEND A SOCIALIST UNITY MEETING IN SAO PAULO. THE PURPOSE OF THE GATHERING, WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT 150 PERSONS, WAS TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEMS IN FORMING A LEGAL BRAZILIAN SOCIALIST PARTY. SOME OF THE PARTICIPATING MEMBERS BELONGED TO OUTLAWED BRAZILIAN POLITICAL GROUPS, SUCH AS THE "LIGA OPERARIA", A TROTSKYITE ORGANIZATION. AFTER MAKING THE ARRESTS, THE DOI OFFICIALS TURNED THOSE ARRESTED OVER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ORDER (DOPS) OF THE SAO PAULO STATE POLICE. [redacted]

3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] THOSE AT THE GATHERING WERE, AT MOST, ONLY VIOLATING

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MINDR BRAZILIAN LAWS. [REDACTED] THE ARRESTS 3.3(b)(1)
WOULD NOT STAND UP IN A COURT OF LAW. AS OF 28 AUGUST, ABOUT
HALF OF THOSE ARRESTED HAVE BEEN RELEASED.

2. ONE OF THOSE ARRESTED, HUGO MIGUEL BRESSANO,
AN ARGENTINE SOCIALIST LEADER, HAS CREATED A SERIOUS HUMAN
RIGHTS PROBLEM FOR THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT. SENIOR OFFICIALS OF
THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SNI) IN BRASILIA, INCLUDING
GENERAL OCTAVIO AGUIAR DE MENEZES, HEAD OF THE SNI,
AND GENERAL WELTON ARAUJO DE OLIVEIRA E CRUZ, HEAD OF THE
BRASILIA CENTRAL AGENCY, WANT TO EXPEL BRESSANO AND HAND HIM OVER
TO THE ARGENTINE MILITARY AUTHORITIES. ON 29 AUGUST, GUY PRIM,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR,

THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES, BASED IN BUENOS
AIRES, VISITED SAO PAULO POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND DEMANDED THAT THE
BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES EITHER RELEASE BRESSANO IN BRAZIL OR SEND
HIM OUT OF THE COUNTRY TO EUROPE. HE TOLD DOPS OFFICIALS THAT
BRESSANO WOULD BE KILLED IF TURNED OVER TO ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES.

3. DOPS OFFICIALS IN SAO PAULO ARE AWAITING ORDERS FROM
BRASILIA ON HOW TO PROCEED IN THIS CASE. THEY ARE FEARFUL THAT
ARGENTINE TERRORIST GROUPS MAY ATTEMPT A KIDNAPPING IN ARGENTINA
OR BRAZIL WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS IN ORDER TO FORCE THE BRAZILIAN
AUTHORITIES TO RELEASE BRESSANO.

3.3(b)(1) 4. [REDACTED] COMMENT: SECOND ARMY OFFICIALS WHO WERE RESPONSIB-
BLE FOR THE ARREST OF THE 22 SOCIALISTS, ARE THUNDERSTRUCK OVER

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THE WAY THE CASE WAS TURNED OUT. THEY HAD NO INTENTION OF CREA-
TING SUCH A FUROR AND HAD NO IDEA THAT THE BRESSANO ARREST WOULD
CAUSE SUCH PROBLEMS.)

5. () COMMENT:

3.3(b)(6)

BRESSANO.

IS CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE ARGENTINE SOCIALIST PARTY. HE ALSO WORKS ON THE STAFF OF THE
WEEKLY MAGAZINE "PALAVRA OBREIRA", WHICH IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE
TROTSKYITE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL. IN 1962 HE OPERATED CLANDESTINELY
IN PERU UNDER ALIAS "MANUEL MORENO", PARTICIPATING IN A BANK
ROBBERY. LATER HE MOVED TO BOLIVIA WHERE HE WAS ARRESTED AND
SUBSEQUENTLY SET FREE. IN 1963 HE SERVED AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE PERUVIAN NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT IN BUENOS AIRES. AFTER
1963 HE BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS SOCIALIST/TROTSKYITE GROUPS
IN ARGENTINA. HE HELPED FOUND THE ARGENTINE TEXTILE TRADE UNION,
AND WHILE HE WAS SECRETARY OF A SOCIALIST YOUTH GROUP, HE HAD
LINKS WITH THE POPULAR REVOLUTIONARY ARMY (ERP). HE ARRIVED
IN SAO PAULO FROM CARACAS AT THE INVITATION OF THE BRAZILIAN "NAT-
IONAL SOCIALIST CONVERGENCY" ORGANIZATION IN ORDER TO ATTEND THEIR
MEETING. HE HAD PLANNED TO RETURN TO CARACAS ON 24 AUGUST.)

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