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# TELEGRAM

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ACTION NODS-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1878

State Dept. review  
completed

S E C R E T LISBON 1878

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-4  
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PD, US  
SUBJECT: ARMED UPRISINGS IN AZORES

REF: (A) [redacted] (SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/  
CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABRUAD/THIS INFORMATION  
IS NOT TO BE INCLUDED IN ANY OTHER DOCUMENT OR  
PUBLICATION) 25X1  
(B) STATE 67972

1. I AM CONCERNED OVER REPORTS THAT ARMED ACTION IN THE AZORES IS PLANNED BY PORTUGUESE EXILES IN SPAIN AND BY THE AZOREAN AUTONOMY MOVEMENT (MAPA). ULTRA-RIGHT SPLINTER GROUPS CAN ONLY HARM USG POLICY IN THIS AREA, AS THEY HAVE ALREADY HARMED US ON THE MAINLAND.

2. THE ASSUMPTION BY PLOTTERS IN SPAIN (REF A) THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO STIMULATE A POPULAR UPRISING IN MAINLAND PORTUGAL AFTER SECURING A BASE IN THE AZORES IS A PIPE DREAM. EVEN IN THE UNLIKELY CASE THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO ESTABLISH THEMSELVES IN THE AZORES, IT IS INCONCEIVABLE THAT THE PEOPLE OF PORTUGAL WOULD RALLY TO THEIR CAUSE. THE OPPOSITE WILL MORE LIKELY BE THE CASE. THE MEASURES THE GOP HAS TAKEN SINCE THE MARCH 11 COUP, ESPECIALLY THE BANK NATIONALIZATIONS, HAVE MOVED IT TO THE LEFT, BUT HAVE ALSO ENABLED IT TO CONSOLIDATE ITS BASE OF SUPPORT. THERE IS LITTLE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE PRESENT REGIME CAN BE BROUGHT DOWN BY AN ILL CONCEIVED COUP FROM THE

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ULTRA-RIGHT, PARTICULARLY WITH DISMEMBERMENT OF THE COUNTRY AS ITS "PLATFORM."

3. EQUALLY DUBIOUS IS ASSUMPTION BY MAPA ADHERENTS THAT THEY CAN MOBILIZE THE LARGELY PASSIVE AZOREAN POPULATION IN AN ATTEMPT TO GAIN INDEPENDENCE FROM THE MAINLAND.

4. I BELIEVE WE CAN SAFELY ASSUME THAT REF (A) AND REF (B) GROUPS ARE PENETRATED BY LEFTISTS AND THAT THE GOP IS AWARE OF THEIR ACTIVITIES. IF THE GOP FINDS SUBSTANCE TO SUPPORT THEIR ALREADY EXISTING SUSPICIONS THAT THE US IS BACKING MAPA AND OTHER RIGHT-WING GROUPS, OUR BASE RIGHTS COULD BE IN DANGER OF SPEEDY TERMINATION.

5. IF THROUGH SOME FOLLY, EITHER OF THESE GROUPY DOES TAKE ARMED ACTION AND FAILS, AS IT ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL, PORTUGAL WILL SEE A REPEAT OF THE AFTERMATH OF THE FAILED COUP ATTEMPT OF MARCH 11, WITH ANOTHER SHARP LURCH TO THE LEFT AND THE DISCREDITING OF OUR REMAINING FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS IN PORTUGAL.

6. WE SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER THE EFFECTS OF POSSIBLE REVELATIONS OR EVEN CHARGES OF US SUPPORT FOR AZOREAN SEPARATISTS ON COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD HOSTING US BASE FACILITIES.

7. ACTION REQUESTED:

(A) THAT WE INFORM THE EXILE GROUP IN SPAIN THAT THE US WILL NOT ONLY NOT SUPPORT THEM BUT MIGHT EVEN BE OBLIGED TO ASSIST THE GOP BY PROVIDING TRANSPORT AND SUPPLIES SHOULD THEY TRY ANYTHING IN THE AZORES. A FIRM WARNING OF THIS NATURE MAY BE THE ONLY THING THAT WILL DISSUADE THIS GROUP.

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(B) THAT EMBASSY [REDACTED] BE AUTHORIZED TO INFORM THE GOP THAT WE HAVE INFORMATION THAT AN UNIDENTIFIED GROUP OF PLOTTERS IN SPAIN IS PLANNING SOMETHING IN THE AZORES AND THAT WE HAVE TRIED TO PASS WORD TO THEM THAT WE WILL ACTIVELY OPPOSE THEIR EFFORTS IN FASHION DESCRIBED ABOVE.

(C) THAT THROUGH APPROPRIATE CHANNELS WE INFORM MAPA THAT USG IS FIRMLY OPPOSED TO ANY SEPARATIST ACTIVITIES

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ON THEIR PART AND THAT I BE AUTHORIZED TO LET GUP KNOW THAT WE HAVE DONE SO.  
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