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GOING TELEGRAM Department of State

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

ACTION: INFO:

Amembassy RIO DE JANEIRO

PRIORITY

BRASITALA Amembassy

AmConsul SAO PAULO

RECIFE AmConsul

STATE

SUBJECT: N.Y. Times Story on Protests over Brezilian University "Purges"

1. N.Y. Times ran story June 1 headlined "Ex-U.S. Aide Joins Protest to Brazil." Story reports former Ambassador Lincoln Gordon, Professors John Johnson, Charles Wegley and seven other American scholars in Latin American studies sent telegram May 31 to President Costa e Silva protesting "recent faculty purges in Brazilian universities." Times states telegram drafted by "committee of Latin American Studies Association, an academic Association with more than 700 members." Excerpts from story follow (unnecessary words omitted).

2. Ambassador Gordon gusted quoted as telling Times, "My objection to removal of professors is part of my general feeling of grave concern over arbitrary use of power in Brazil since December." Story portrays Ambassador Gordon's "first public protest" over Brazilian events as "personal echo of slow change U.S. policy toward Brazil." Times also states M "U.S. officials say policy of drawing back from close idenking identification within Brazilian Governments since 1964 began under John W. Tuthill ... and "has accelerated since last December."

d by: ARA/BR:MLevitsky:me:6/2/69 Drafted by:

Telegraphic transmission and Tel. Ext. classification approved by: 2627

ARA/BR - Mr. Kubisch

ARA/PAF - Mr. Proper (substance)

UNCLASSIFIED Classification Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy RTO DE JANETRO

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- 3. Times story states Ambassador Gordon's "present open opposition to ...

  Costa e Silva would be likely arouse wide interest in Brazil," but that protest organizers "did not believe informally censored press would be encouraged report cablegrams."
- 4. Times reports text of telegram as urging Costa e Silva "immediately to remove restrictions your Government has imposed upon scholars and permit them return to their institutions and to work in free and open intellectual ERNIER environment."
- 5. Times also reports second protest telegram sent Costa e Silva, signed by "283 scholars at 23 American colleges and universities ..." Signers reportedly included Professors Alex Inkeles of Harvard and Myron Weiner and Max Milliken of MIT.

[ROGERS]

FORM B-63 DS-322A CONTINUATION SHEET UNCLASSIFIED Classification