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1. Following is text Feb. 27 Washington Post editorial:

"OPPRESSION IN BRAZIL

"Although they have a long way to go before outdoing Greece or Haiti in the catching and torturing of political prisoners, the military dictators running Brazil are definitely coming on fast. Too many reports by too many reliable witnesses have been appearing about the torturing of ~~xxx~~ 'subversives' for anyone to doubt that it goes on. John Goshko of the Washington Post recently wrote from Rio de Janeiro about the 'increasing tendency to imprison without charge and torture persons regarded as subversive.' Two months ago, Luis Edgar de Andrade, a well known Brazilian journalist publicly--

which means bravely--accused the government of tor-

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turing political prisoners. The Feb. 26 New York Review of Books carries two documents written by political prisoners in Brazil; both tell of citizens being slowly electrocuted to semi-consciousness, being beaten to the point of broken wrists, arms and legs, having fires set under them. Al of this to get 'information' about other 'subversives.'

"These horror facts are shocking, but not surprising. Brazil's military masters, led by a slow-minded general named Medici, want their own way, and anyone who criticizes or questions that way is an automatic enemy of the state. It's an old story, but the tragic irony is that only a few years ago, Brazil was being hailed by Washington as an example for all Latin America. If a free election today were held/in Brazil--an impossibility--the man who was most vocally anti-government would win hands down.

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"Since the generals know only the language of brutality and force, many of those seeking to fight Brazil's immense poverty and injustice are learning the language of violence also. This explains the growing anti-government terrorism in the country's larger cities.

"Incredibly, Nelson Rockefeller on his visit to Brazil last June 'to find facts' was favorably impressed by the generals. Contrary to the wisdom of some of his advisers, Rockefeller urged continued close relations between Brazil and the United States. But in the atmosphere of the increasing political oppression practiced by the generals and the hopes for social justice expressed by many Brazilian students, intellectuals and priests, a nasty showdown is coming which will oblige this country to make a choice. And the United States, as so often before in its foreign relations, is in danger of

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getting itself caught up on the side of the oppressors,  
forced to choose wrong."

END

[ROGERS]

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