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62

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

● ROUTINE

Intelligence Information Cable

COUNTRY URUGUAY

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAY 2001

EO 12958
3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
(C)



BUNDY-SMITH
ALEXANDER
BATOR
BLK
BRUBAKER
DISTR. 18 JUNE 1964
EISE
FORRESTAL
HESSIT
JOHNSON
KEENEY
KLEIN
KOLBE
MORLEY
MURPHY
REED
SAUNDERS
SMITH, WILL

DATE OF
INFO.

SUBJECT

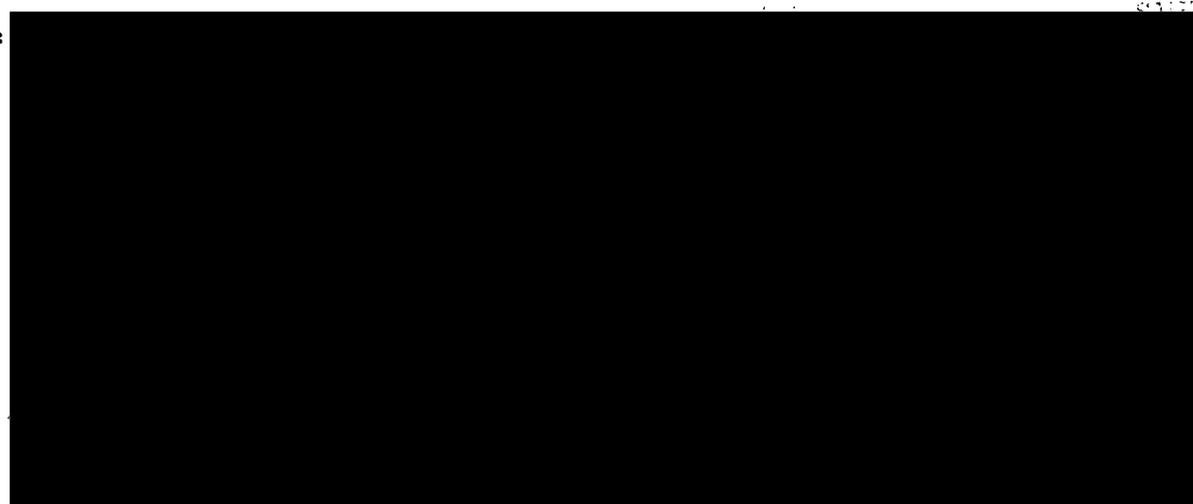
ESTIMATE OF CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN
URUGUAY - SITUATION APPRAISAL AS OF 15
JUNE 1964

EO 12958
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PLACE &
DATE ACQ.



SOURCE
AND
APPRAISAL:



EO 12958
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(S)

2. REPORTS OF PREPARATIONS FOR A COUP AGAINST THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT
REACHED A HIGH POINT DURING THE WEEK OF 7 JUNE 1964 BECAUSE OF VARIOUS
FACTORS, THE MOST IMPORTANT BEING THE FOLLOWING:

A. THE CONSTANT DRUMMING ON THE GOLPISTA THEME BY EL POPULAR,
NEWSPAPER OF THE URUGUAYAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCU), AND EPOCA, THIRD-
POSITIONIST NEWSPAPER.

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

STATE/INR DIA ARMY/ACSI NAVY AIR JCS SECDEF NSA NIC AID USIA OCI ONE OCR ORR OO
REPCINCLANT

EXO

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B. THE LENGTH OF THE CABINET CRISIS WHICH HAS DEEPEENED THE AVERAGE URUGUAYAN'S FEELING OF FRUSTRATION TOWARD A DIVIDED AND INEPT GOVERNMENT MAJORITY. THE NEW MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS SHOULD CAUSE THE REPORTS OF A COUP TO SUBSIDE, BUT DO NOT GIVE ANY PROMISE OF BETTER GOVERNMENT OR LEADERSHIP.

3. THE STEADY DETERIORATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION , UNDER AN ALMOST ANARCHIC STATE OF GOVERNMENT HAS LED TO THE UNIFICATION IN THE ARMY OF A SMALL, BUT NONETHELESS INFLUENTIAL NUCLEUS OF OFFICERS WHO ARE ACTIVISTS, THEREBY INCREASING TO SOME DEGREE AT LEAST THE ARMY'S INFLUENCE IN THE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN URUGUAY.

4. COUP TALK WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE AS LONG AS CONDITIONS CONTINUE TO DETERIORATE, BUT THE STAGE PROBABLY HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED WHERE A COUP CAN BE SUCCESSFULLY CONSUMMATED.

5. COLONEL VENTURA FELIPE RODRIGUEZ, CHIEF OF THE MONTEVIDEO POLICE DEPARTMENT, HAS GIVEN NO INDICATION THAT HE MAY BE INVOLVED IN THE PLOTTING. HE CONTINUES TO SHOW DEEP CONCERN OVER SERIOUS CIVIL OUTBREAKS AND DEMONSTRATIONS THAT HE EXPECTS TO OCCUR DURING THE COMING WINTER MONTHS, AND THE LACK OF POLICE CAPABILITY TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THESE DISTURBANCES. HIS PRIME PURPOSE IN LIFE APPEARS TO BE TO MAKE HIS DEPARTMENT AN EFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT BODY.

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6. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE, CINCSO, CINCLANT.

END OF MESSAGE

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