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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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Captain Chandler was assassinated by Brazilian terrorists in the City of São Paulo on 12 October 1968. This IR is essentially of historical significance and seeks to summarize all pertinent elements pertaining to the officer himself, the circumstances of his assassination, and the significance of that act in terms of the Brazilian politico-military scene.

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1. Charles Rodney Chandler was born at Arcadia, Louisiana on 23 July 1938. He entered the United States Military Academy at West Point and was graduated as a 2nd Lt. of Artillery on 6 June 1962. While at the Military Academy, "Chuck" Chandler studied the Portuguese language and developed a close identification with Brazil. He reportedly established duty and study in Brazil as one of his career objectives. Following graduation, Chandler attended the basic career course at Fort Bragg and also graduated from the parachutists' and ranger courses, the latter at Fort Benning, Georgia. From March, 1963 until August, 1964, he was assigned to artillery units at Fort Bragg. In September, 1964, he reported to Vietnam for duty with the

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

CONTINUATION SHEET

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

PAGE 2 OF 9 PAGES

ORIGINATOR [REDACTED]

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U.S. Military Assistance Command as an Assistant Sub-Section Advisor and as an Assistant Regional Advisor, both with the 7th Infantry Division. Upon returning to the U.S. in late 1965, he reported to Fort Sill, Oklahoma for duty as a battery officer and later, as a student in the Associate Field Artillery Officers' Career Course, from which he graduated in May, 1966.

2. [REDACTED] While at Fort Sill, Chandler saw an opportunity to achieve his goal of duty in Brazil. He applied for an Olmsted Scholarship under a program sponsored by the Olmsted Foundation. In accordance with available information, the Olmsted Foundation was organized by a retired U.S. Army General Officer for the purpose of granting two scholarships per year for study abroad. The Program is restricted to U.S. Army Captains who are graduates of the U.S. Military Academy. The individuals selected can choose any accredited foreign university. Since "Chuck" Chandler desired to teach Portuguese at West Point and write books and articles on Brazil and its culture and institutions, he opted for the School of Sociology and Political Sciences of the University of São Paulo. Prior to leaving the U.S., Chandler attended the Portuguese Language Course at the Defense Insititute East Coast, Anacostia Annex, Washington, D.C., from June to December, 1966. The U.S. Army paid transportation costs to Brazil for Chandler and his family, and he received the pay and allowances of his grade while at the University. The Olmsted Foundation gave Chandler \$2,000 to defray university costs and an additional \$2,300 in the form of family and housing assistance.

3. [REDACTED] Captain Chandler arrived in Brazil on 6 January 1967, accompanied by his wife [REDACTED] son [REDACTED] son [REDACTED] and son [REDACTED]. He was assigned to the Student Detachment, Hqs., Military District of Washington, but attached to the Office of the American Consul General, São Paulo, Brazil, for administration, in coordination with the Office of the Defense Attache. The Chandler's rented a comfortable house for \$218 per month at Rua Petropolis, 375, in the Sumare District of the City of São Paulo. Capt. Chandler enrolled at the university and soon became deeply involved in his full-time studies. In [REDACTED] 1968, the Chandlers became parents for a fourth time when a daughter, [REDACTED] was born in São Paulo.

4. [REDACTED] As an intelligent, dedicated, and serious young man, "Chuck" Chandler went about his studies with vigor and a sense of total commitment. He made many friends at the university and maintained social contacts with bright young people both at his residence and at theirs. He made no attempt to conceal either his military condition or the fact that he had been to Vietnam. Before long, he was confronted with the usual anti-American slogans of the radical left-wingers within the student body. Chandler stood up to the challenges and, according to observers, demolished the fragile, emotional, and biased allegations of the minority in his school holding strong reservations toward the U.S. and its role in Vietnam. He spoke with persuasive conviction about the U.S. presence in Vietnam and won the applause and respect of those who shared his views, but lacked his authority and facts to counter those who had enjoyed a previously unchallenged position. Chandler's telling blows against the radical

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

CONTINUATION SHEET

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
PAGE 3 OF 9
ORIGINATOR [REDACTED]

PAGES

(C) PENDING STATE REVIEW

(Leave Blank)

left-wing annoyed even an American -- one Norris Lyle, a Ford Foundation grantee who was gathering material in São Paulo for a doctoral thesis in Latin American history. Described by the U.S. Consulate General in São Paulo as "an aggressive exponent of radical left-wing views, including the violent opposition to American involvement in the war in Vietnam," Lyle probably helped "finger" Chandler for the deadly terrorists who eventually assassinated him. In referring to Lyle in an official dispatch following Chandler's murder, the Consulate General said: "... Lyle's attacks on Chandler as a militarist agent undoubtedly drew greater attention to him. It seems likely that it was from within this university setting that word of Chandler's existence and background reached the radical, pro-violence Communist group which, it appears, committed the murder." The Consulate went on to say, "Lyle's self-imposed crusades are a sorry -- and dangerous -- affair."

REFER TO STATE

5. (C) The voluntary involvement which Chandler undertook on behalf of U.S. policies in Vietnam was done on his own and without consultation with the Embassy in Rio de Janeiro or the São Paulo Consulate General. His discretion was such that his activities never reached the public domain or the Embassy's ears. He apparently even visited military units in Campinas (at least Lyle alleged as much) where he presented his pro-U.S. story. The first knowledge I had of Chandler's extra-curricular activities was in early September, 1968. At that time, the Consulate-General consulted me on whether or not Chandler should be allowed to participate in a seminar on "Current Political Problems" at MacKenzie University in São Paulo. Posters which were prominently displayed in São Paulo universities read as follows:

REFER TO STATE

"Law Faculty of MacKenzie University

João Mendes Junior Academic Directorate

Political Studies Course

Current Political Problems

- 26 Sep-2030 -- U.S. Policy and Vietnam
Major (sic) Charles R. Chandler
U.S. Armed Forces Officer -- Vietnam
Veteran
- 2 Oct-2030 -- The Warsaw Pact and the Satellite Countries
Prof. Nicolas Boer
International Policy Analyst, Estado de São Paulo
- 10 Oct-2030 -- Technology and Politics
Prof. Willerm Flusser
Prof. of Philosophy, São Paulo Institute
of Technology
- 17 Oct-2030 -- National Reality - Civil and Military Power
Prof. Oliveiros S. Ferreira
Prof. of Political Science, Univ. of São
Paulo

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

CONTINUATION SHEET

REPORT NO.
PAGE 4 OF 9 PAGES
ORIGINATOR

Those who enroll will receive diplomas issued by the Rector and the School of Law of MacKenzie University.

Rua Itambé, 135
Ruí Barbosa Auditorium"

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The existence of the posters came to our attention only after Chandler was murdered. At the time of the consultation by the Consul, I suggested that Chandler postpone any overt activity which might attract public attention at a time when the Chief of Staff of the United States Army, General William Westmoreland, was scheduled to visit Rio de Janeiro to participate in the VIII Conference of American Army Commanders. Other than that restriction, I left it entirely up to the Consulate's discretion as to future guidance to Chandler. While the record is not entirely clear on Chandler's rationale for subsequent actions in connection with his defense of U.S. policies, it appears that, either he was advised of the dangerous ground into which he was venturing, or he himself sensed that he was getting into something which perhaps was beyond his depth. At any rate, he reportedly used the caution on not causing embarrassment to the Chief of Staff to cancel himself out of participation in the seminar at MacKenzie. It appears that he told the organizers of the seminar and classmates that he had been called to Rio de Janeiro for consultation with the Chief of Staff, his former commander in Vietnam, thus he would not be able to participate. There can be little doubt that Chandler's effective defense of the United States, his identification as a military man and as a Vietnam veteran, his exposure by Lyle, and his agreement to participate in the MacKenzie seminar, all contributed to "setting him up" as a ripe target for any mischief the Communists might have in mind.

6. As it turned out, the International Communist Movement, via its Havana puppets, was indeed looking for a target. The occasion was the 8 October 1968 first anniversary of the elimination of Che Guevara in Bolivia. The word went out to the "comrades" in the field: "Commemorate with appropriate impact, preferably against American military targets." The São Paulo-based leader of Brazil's Chinese-line Communist activities, Carlos Marighella, reportedly had directed that dramatic terrorist acts, including some against Americans, be carried out on the anniversary of Guevara's death. The name of "Chuck" Chandler apparently surfaced in late September or early October as the victim. One Dulce de Souza, arrested on 25 January 1969 in the interior of São Paulo State, was assigned to prepare a thorough study of Chandler's movements, including sketches of his house and surrounding areas. Fresh from Cuba in early October, tough and vicious Marco Antonio Bras de Carvalho (alias "Marquito" of "Marquinho") was designated the machine gunner for the assassination. Subsequent interrogation of those apprehended and charged with the murder revealed that Chandler had altered his normal pattern on 8 October and that the attack upon him was postponed for several days.

CONTINUATION SHEET

REPORT NO. []
 PAGE 5 OF 9 PAGES
 ORIGINATOR []

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7. [] The following translated synthesis of the Statement to Police by Mrs. [] Chandler on 14 October 1968 describes the events of that fateful Saturday, 12 October 1968, when Captain Charles Rodney Chandler, U.S. Army was assassinated:

"Slightly before 8:30 AM, my husband left the house by the kitchen door and went to the garage located in the adjacent yard. Our son [] age 9, opened the yard gate to allow his father to back out of the garage. The car backed into the street, clear of the gate, and stopped. As I normally did on such occasions, I posted myself at the front door to wave goodbye. I observed a dark tan Volkswagen coming up our street in the direction of Dr. Arnaldo Avenue. When it approached the rear of my husband's Chevrolet Station Wagon, it stopped. I observed a short, stout man with dark complexion, moustache, dark hair, and a round face get out of the Volkswagen. He wore dark glasses. The man was carrying a machine gun and he approached my husband who was seated in the car waiting for Darryl to close the gate. I shouted 'No!' 'No!'. My husband leaned across the front seat in my direction. At that moment, the cited individual opened fire. I immediately ran into the house until the firing ceased. I then came to the door in time to see the Volkswagen leave. I dashed to the car where my husband was slumped over. I entered the car and placed his bleeding head on my lap. The only other thing I remember was the presence around the car of neighbors who came to help."

8. [] Mrs. Chandler's state of momentary panic did not permit her to observe a second gunman who probably approached her husband's car after she had ducked into the house following the machine gunner's burst. This individual used a .38 caliber revolver. All told, "Chuck" Chandler's body was riddled with 14 bullets and he died almost immediately. The ideological bent of the terrorists was clearly discernible from a pamphlet which they left at the scene. The pamphlet - an informal translation of which follows - also revealed that the assassination was planned and connected with the Guevara death commemoration:

"Revolutionary Justice executes Vietnam war criminal Chandler and warns all of his followers that, sooner or later, they have to settle accounts with the Revolutionary Tribunal.

"The assassination of Commander Che Guevara in Bolivia was carried out by order and orientation of war criminals and agents of North American imperialism like this Chandler, today executed by sentence of Revolutionary Justice. He came to Brazil with the mission of training local criminals in the most advanced techniques of torture and cruelties.

Brazil, the Vietnam of America!!!

'It is the duty of every revolutionary to carry out revolution'
 'Establish one, two, three Vietnams'
 'That is the battle cry of Commander Che Guevara,
 Brazil, the Vietnam of America!!!'

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

CONTINUATION SHEET

CONFIDENTIAL

(Classification and Control Markings)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

PAGE

6 OF 9

PAGES

ORIGINATOR [REDACTED]

(Leave Blank)

Armed struggle is the only road to revolution in Brazil. Armed struggle is the way for every revolutionary in Brazil. 'establish one, two, three Vietnams', that is the battle cry of Che Guevara.

Brazil, the Vietnam of America!!!!

9. [REDACTED] Mrs. Chandler and the four children accompanied Captain Chandler's body to Rio de Janeiro, via special USAF flight on 14 October, and onward to New York, by commercial air, that same day. Promoted posthumously, Major Charles Rodney Chandler was laid to rest, with full military honors, at West Point, New York on 16 October 1968. Mrs. Chandler and the children took up temporary residence with her parents [REDACTED] New York. Throughout her ordeal, [REDACTED] Chandler displayed extraordinary courage and dignity. She volunteered for extensive interrogations by the then largely uncoordinated Brazilian security establishment. Moreover, she obtained comfort from such thoughts as: "Chuck died as he would want to, in action. He would also have been pleased to know that he went out wearing his USMA sweat shirt and his paratrooper boots." (Chandler was on his way to take his son [REDACTED] for a hike in Ibirapuera Park). Once settled in New York, Mrs. Chandler cooperated fully with U.S. police authorities in producing a remarkable artist's concept of "Marquito", the machine gunner.

10. [REDACTED] The vicious murder of Chandler produced waves of indignation throughout the Brazilian military establishment and the Government. A West German Major had been murdered in Rio de Janeiro in July, 1968, and terrorists had killed several Brazilian security personnel between July and October. However, these incidents failed to produce the impact of the Chandler murder. Perhaps as much as any other catalyst, even though in less obvious fashion, the brutal elimination of Chandler led to the clamping down which took place on 13 December 1968 in the form of Institutional Act No. 5. Moving quickly under the sweeping powers granted by that Act, officials soon uncovered the group responsible for Chandler's elimination. The following deadly terrorists were involved:

Pedro Lobo de Oliveira (a cashiered State of São Paulo Militia sergeant and the leader of the group that planned and carried out the murder)

Dulce de Souza (Oliveira's girlfriend and the person who conducted the surveillance of Chandler's movements)

Marco Antonio Brás de Carvalho (the machine gunner)

Ladislav Dowbar (described in a lead story in The New York Times Magazine of 15 Nov 1970 as a "pleasant, scholarly young man")

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

CONTINUATION SHEET

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
PAGE 7 OF 9 PAGES
ORIGINATOR [REDACTED]

Onofre Pinto (a blood-thirsty former Army sergeant)

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João Carlos Kfourri Quartime de Moraes

João Leonardo da Silva Mendes

Diogenes de Carvalho (the individual who fired the .38 caliber revolver. Diogenes had participated in São Paulo's worst examples of terrorism. He was involved in the bombing of the U.S. Consulate, the bombings of II Army Hqs. with the attendant death of a soldier, the bombing of a São Paulo militia unit in which a sentry was killed, the robbery of 12 rifles from an Army hospital guard room, and several bank holdups.

Hermes Camargo Batista

11. [REDACTED] Beginning on 20 January 1969, São Paulo State police, in cooperation with other elements of the federal, state, and municipal security establishment, began a crackdown on those involved in the Chandler slaying. A 20 January raid on a suspected terrorist safehouse at Rua Fortunato No. 291, apt. 201, in São Paulo, placed police in direct confrontation with the dangerous "Marquito" or "Marquinho", the machine gunner. He opened fire but was shot down and killed instantly in the ensuing exchange. Three days later, Pedro Lobo de Oliveira was arrested and he gave police valuable leads to his associates. Dulce de Souza was picked up on the 27th and several of the others, among them Diogenes de Carvalho, Onofre Pinto, and Ladislav Dowbar, were detained soon thereafter. While in custody, most of them revealed details about their operations which were to lead to the dismantling of much of the São Paulo and national terrorist movement. The terrorists who eliminated Chandler were identified with the Movimento Nacional Revolucionario (MNR), organized largely by cashiered security force security risks, such as Pedro Lobo de Oliveira and Onofre Pinto. The successes which the MNR had in late 1968 (bombings, bank robberies, thefts of dynamite, attacks upon military units, and murder), led other subversive groups to join. Those reinforcements came from Ação Popular (AP), Partido Operario Comunista (POC), Politica Operaria (Polop), etc. With the addition of the new recruits, the MNR changed into the Vanguarda Popular Revolucionaria (VPR). The latter, in turn, evolved into the Vanguarda Armada Revolucionaria - Palmares (VAR-Palmares). The latter group became guided by Brazilian Army deserter, Capt. Carlos Lamarca, after he fled from his unit at Quitauna, São Paulo, on 24 January 1969.

12. [REDACTED] The terrorist tactic of kidnaping diplomats and exchanging them for detained criminals placed enormous strains on the Brazilian security establishment in September, 1969, when the first kidnaping occurred. Those stresses flowed from the revulsion with which military men looked upon the idea of giving up deadly thugs whose destructive activities had cost so much in terms of blood,

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

CONTINUATION SHEET

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
PAGE 8 OF 9 PAGES
ORIGINATOR [REDACTED]

(Leave Blank)

suffering, and material losses. Thus it was with sadness that the Brazilian Government honored its tradition of safeguarding the lives of accredited diplomats. In so doing, several of Chandler's murderers were banished and sent into exile. This was the case with Diogenes de Carvalho who went to Mexico in exchange for kidnaped Japanese Consul Nobuo Okuchi. Pedro Lobo de Oliveira and Dulce de Souza went to Algeria, in June, 1970, in exchange for kidnaped West German Ambassador von Holleben. Both Onofre Pinto and Ladislav Dowbar were part of the same contingent that went to Algeria. From those distant points, the Chandler murderers have sustained propagandistic efforts to portray themselves as political martyrs (in truth, they never represented any legitimate political force), and the Brazilian Government as callous, brutal, and insensitive. Moreover, the Chandler murderers and their apologists tend to sweep under the rug of forgetfulness, particularly when propagandizing Americans, any reference to that cowardly act. On that basis, it was not surprising to careful observers of the Brazilian scene to notice the omission of any mention of the Chandler murder in a propaganda piece issued in April, 1970, by an organization calling itself the American Committee for Information on Brazil. In a document called "Terror in Brazil - A Dossier", the predictable thrust of the authors (presumably Brazilians and foreigners who had been deprived of any forum in Brazil from which to exploit Brazilians commercially or politically), ignores the murders of the West German major, of Chuck Chandler, of Brazilian soldiers and police officers. In the well known language of the authors, such murders constitute, "justice." In its Chronology of Events in Brazil, the "Dossier" (which has been used as an authoritative reference by U.S. clergymen, members of Congress, news media, academicians, etc.), fails to mention the murder of Chandler on 12 October 1968. Instead, the 1968 entries include such references as "Police kill a student", "student demonstrations in major cities gain wide-spread public support; hundreds of people are imprisoned"; "police kill six people during demonstrations in Rio"; "Extreme right terrorist organizations step up assassination activities"; "American support for the dictatorship is condemned," etc.

COMMENT: [REDACTED] Careful evaluation of the impact of the Chandler murder on the Brazilian Armed Forces leads to the following conclusions:

a. The initial feeling of shame and humiliation quickly translated itself into a new awareness of the magnitude of the threat Brazil faced. The Chandler murder was unquestionably tied to instructions generated in Havana and it involved at least one individual trained in Cuba. The Armed Forces persuaded themselves that Brazil was involved in a deadly war and that the surface appearances of pure Democracy would have to give way to measures of higher priority.

b. The murder revealed the duplication, petty jealousies, lack of coordination, and inefficiency of Brazilian intelligence services. Mrs. Chandler was questioned at length by at least two security services not trusting each other. Moreover, faced with U.S. pressures for quick action against the

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

CONTINUATION SHEET

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

PAGE

9 OF 9

PAGES

ORIGINATOR [REDACTED]

terrorists, the Government displayed confusion and frustration. Largely as a result of this situation, "Operation Bandeirantes" was begun in São Paulo and brought together, under the II Army Commander, all intelligence and operations activities of all security forces, in the war against terrorism. From that point on, the security forces went from the defensive to the offensive and began the systematic neutralization of hostile elements. More than one Brazilian officer has said that Chuck Chandler's sacrifice sounded the timely warning note that Brazil needed to face up to an extremely dangerous national situation. Moreover, the terrorist movement suffered an undeniable stigma in the eyes of a previously seemingly phlegmatic public. Torrents of Latin sentimental concern poured forth for the wife and 9-year old child who had been subjected to the horror of witnessing the butchering of the family breadwinner. From that moment on, the public environment was transformed into a very hostile sea indeed for those engaged in deadly terrorism.

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