

scaling down the scope of their activities. In the past months, the terrorists have been engaged in those types of operations for which they are adequately prepared, such as robberies of banks and business establishments and isolated attacks on vehicles and personnel of the security forces.

## 2. Medici Cracks Down on Commander of Superior War College

On September 24, President Medici relieved General Rodrigo OCTAVIO of his command of the Superior War College (ESG) at the latter's "request." In fact, General Octavio was fired from his position for defying orders not to let liberal Archbishop Dom Avelar use the ESG as a platform to voice the Church's criticism of the GOB. To most observers, General Octavio's penchant for sounding off on broad political subjects and allowing the ESG to be used as a forum for criticism of the government was bound, sooner or later, to get him into difficulty. The President's action was another demonstration of the tight control which he maintains over members of both his government and the armed forces. It served to renew the warning he gave to his cabinet when he assumed the Presidency that he would not brook wide ranging political activity within his government. The action also indicates that the President and those around him take a very narrow view of the breadth of criticism which they feel appropriate from the Church. General Rodrigo Octavio is the leading active duty supporter of former Interior Minister and now retired General Albuquerque Lima, a fervent nationalist. The former's abrupt relief from the ESG without a ripple of reaction indicates the degree of authority and control which President Medici and Army Minister Geisel retain over the armed forces.

## 3. PDR on the Move

In recent weeks, the pace of the organizational activities of the Partido Democratico Republicano (PDR) has stepped up considerably. One PDR leader, Federal Deputy Adolfo de OLIVEIRA, until recently the Secretary General of the MDB, visited a number of states throughout Brazil in efforts to gain support among local politicians for the nascent third