EXEMPT EXEMPT

PORTUGUESE REACTION TO DEATH OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY .

EXEMPT

26 Nov 63 Priority

President KENNEDY's untimely death was a great shock to the Portuguese people and is mourned by all the government and private citizens alike. The government immediately announced three days' mourning (the same as for Pope JOHN XXIII) and all flags on government buildings are at half-mast. The press has been reporting the event day after day but so far without editorial comment.

We inquired of the authorities about the effect of KENNEDY's death on Portugal, and their view may be summed up as being that the new President will continue KENNEDY's foreign policy and there will be no particular change regarding Portugal and in particular the Portuguese colonial problem.

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THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS 1 PAGE(S)