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## **Brazil: Notes On Labor Conflict**

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On Aug. 10 in Recife, Pernambuco state, striking construction workers clashed with military police, resulting in injuries to 12 workers and six police. A strike commenced Aug. 9 by railway workers in Bahia state affected not only passengers from Bahia but also cargo transport from throughout the country, particularly iron ore for export from Minas Gerais state. The Aug. 10 edition of daily newspaper, O Estado de Sao Paulo, reported that about 200 agricultural workers and families pertaining to the Landless Rural Workers Movement (MTRST) had commenced robbing cargo trucks for food. The families have been residing in a camp alongside a highway in Pontal de Paranapanema, Sao Paulo state. On the Tacuru-Sete Quedas highway, Mato Grosso do Sul state, 400 agricultural workers, known as "brasiguaios" (Brazilians expelled from Paraguay), are robbing foodstuffs from passing trucks as well. On Aug. 7 in downtown Porto Alegre, capital of Rio Grande do Sul state, 300 agricultural workers pertaining to the MTRST occupied a main plaza. In the ensuing clash with police, one policeman died, result of being struck with a scythe in the neck, and 30 persons were injured. (Basic data from AFP, 08/08/90, 08/10/90; O Estado de Sao Paulo, 08/10/90)

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