

A Lawyer in Brazil Urges Abrogation Of Curb on Rights

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RIO DE JANEIRO, Aug. 12—A demand for the abrogation of special legislation granting extraordinary powers to the executive under the military Government was made today at a national conference of the Brazilian Bar Association.

The demand was voiced by one of Brazil's leading lawyers, Dr. Heleno Claudio Fragoso, the principal speaker at the conference, which opened last night with about 700 lawyers in attendance.

"The present state of human rights in our country presents a somber picture," he declared, adding: "there does not exist in the country a system of juridical security."

The lawyer centered his attack against Institutional Act 5, a discretionary ruling issued in 1968, when the military leadership was faced with strong opposition. It is still in force.

"This constitutes the most complete negation of the State of Law because there is no juridical limitation to the power of the executive, who is placed above the law," Dr. Fragoso said.

"The Executive Council of the Brazilian Bar Association has received numerous cases of people who have disappeared, who are then discovered, detained incommunicado and submitted to grave physical violence, without the notification of the competent judicial authority," the lawyer said.

The Brazilian Bar Association's president, Dr. José Ribeiro de Castro Filho, received a standing ovation for his opening address, in which he stressed the independence of lawyers and warned against attempts to subordinate the bar association to the executive.