

TELEGRAM

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Recd:

AUG 14, 1967

11AM

FROM: BRASILIA 614 AUG 11

ACTION DEPT INFO RIO SAO PAULO RECIFE

SUBJECT: FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO HEAR TESTIMONY
ON NUCLEAR ENERGY

REF:HBRASILIA 602

1. CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HAS CALLED FONMIN SYG CORREIA DA COSTA TO EXPLAIN GOB POSITION ON TREATY OF MEL (GARBLE) AND NUCLEAR POLICY IN GENERAL. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RAIMUNDO PADILHA QUOTED IN TODAY'S PRESS AS CRITICIZING THOSE WHO TALKING IN EMOTIONAL TERMS AND WHO HAVE "PLAYFUL" ATTITUDE REGARDING ATOMIC BOMB. SAID ADMINISTRATION'S OWN ARENA PARTY HAD ITS "BOMBISTAS," AND FELT SUBJECT SHOULD BE TREATED IN MORE RATIONAL MANNER. PADILHA DEFENDED GOB POSITION AT GENEVA, BUT SAID THIS SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS POLITICAL HOSTILITY TOWARD US, "WHICH HAS OFFERED COLLABORATE WITH BRAZIL IN NUCLEAR FIELD." PADILHA ALSO CRITICIZED MEETING OF CHAMBER'S NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE TO HEAR TESTIMONY ON NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY (REFTEL, AND CLAIMED GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND MANY MILITARY MEN FELT SAME WAY.

2. COMMENT. PADILHA'S CRITICISM OF NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE STEMS LARGELY FROM JURISDICTIONAL ASPECT, PLUS PERSONAL VANITY. ON SUBSTANTIVE SIDE, PADILHA IS FRIENDLY TO US AND CAN BE EXPECTED EXERT MODERATING INFLUENCE ON FONMINISTRY'S TESTIMONY. PADILHA TOLD POL COUNSELOR AUG 9 HE HAD READ AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH TO WAR COLLEGE CAREFULLY AND THOUGHT IT EXCELLENT. SCOFFED AT NOTION OF BRAZIL SEEKING FABRICATE ITS OWN NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES, AND SAID THAT AFTER SPENDING SEVERAL BILLION DOLLARS BEST COUNTRY COULD HOPE FOR WOULD BE TO END WITH BOMB SIZE OF PING PONG BALL. TUTHILL
BT

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