

TELEGRAM

INCOMING

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

Pal-1 Brazil

ACTION

POL-2

INFO

CHRON

RF

R 192130Z OCT 67

FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8260

RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 1019

RUDKLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON 39

STATE GRNC

BT

UNCLAS RIO DE JANEIRO 2773

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

Control: 245

Recd: OCT 20, 1967
9:44 AM

SUBJECT

REFERENCE: RIO'S 2724

1. DURING OCTOBER 18 LUNCHEON WITH RIO POLITICAL REPORTERS WHICH RECEIVED HEAVY PRESS COVERAGE, FONMIN MAGALHAES PINTO QUOTED ON WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS AS FOLLOWS:

A. BRAZILIAN MILITARY NEEDS MODERNIZATION OF EQUIPMENT TO FULFILL MISSION. US NOT INTERFERING TO PREVENT BRAZILIAN PURCHASE OF FRENCH MIRAGE AIRCRAFT. AIR MINISTRY NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRENCH FOR PURCHASE AND FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF AIRCRAFT FACTORY IN BRAZIL STILL UNDERWAY. HOWEVER, IT PROBABLY US INTERESTED IN SELLING ITS OWN AIRCRAFT TO BRAZIL.

B. GUARANTEED HE HAS NOT BEEN UNDER ANY US PRESSURE BECAUSE OF ADOPTION OF INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY BY GOB.

C. FOREIGN MINISTRY ROUTINELY REVIEWING ALL BRAZILIAN INTERNATIONAL ACCORDS INCLUDING INVESTMENT GUARANTEE TREATY WITH US.

D. NUCLEAR POLICY IS EXCLUSIVE COMPETENCE OF PRESIDENT. ITAMARATI ROLE UNALTERED. BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR POLICY HAS NOT CHANGED AND NO LIMITATION ON PEACEFUL USE OF ATOM IS ACCEPTABLE. GOB HOPES TO PROMOTE RETURN OF BRAZILIAN SCIENTISTS ABROAD TO AID IN NUCLEAR PROGRAM.

E. NO LAT AM ARMS RACE EXISTS. LAT AM NATIONS SHOULD PRESEVE OWN INTERNAL ORDER WITH OWN ARMIES AND ARE ABLE TO DO SO. NO INTERAMERICAN PEACE FORCE NEEDED:

F. PRESIDENT DID NOT VETO HIS PARTICIPATION ALGIERS CONFERENCE OF UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS. HE DID NOT GO TO ALGIERS BECAUSE AT RECENT OAS MEETING LATAM FOREIGN MINISTERS DECIDED THEY WOULD NOT ATTEND TECHNICAL MEETING.

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G. NO SECRET ACCORDS WITH PORTUGAL EXIST.

H. PREMATURE AND UNPATRIOTIC TO DISCUSS 1970 PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION IN FIRST YEAR OF COSTA E SILVA TERM. CANDIDATE WILL BE PERSON LINKED TO REVOLUTION AND ARENA. FORESEES NO CRISIS BETWEEN MILITARY AND CIVILIANS. AT MOMENT DOES NOT CONSIDER SELF CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OR FOR GOVERNOR MINAS GERAIS. PRESENT MISSION IS TO ASSIST COSTA E SILVA.

I. COSTA E SILVA NOT INTRANSIGENT ON CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION AND OTHER LAWS, BUT BELIEVES IT TOO EARLY TO MAKE ALTERATIONS. IT IS FIRST NECESSARY TO OBSERVE HOW MEASURES WORKING.

J. FRENTE AMPLA IS NOT SUBVERSIVE AS OF NOW BUT IS "INCONVENIENT".

K. CONFIRMED RECENT ENCOUNTER WITH LACERDA ACCIDENTALLY AT HOME OF MUTUAL FRIEND, JOSE MAGALHAES LINS, BUT SAID DID NOT DISCUSS POLITICS WITH HIM.
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