

TELEGRAM

OUTGOING

AMCONGEN RECIFE

POL-13-8
Foreign Service of the
United States of America

Charge:

CONFIDENTIAL

Control:

Date:

DEC. 14, 1967
4:15 p.m.

ACTION: AMEMBASSY OFFICE BRASILIA _____

INFO: AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO _____

FROM: AMCONSUL RECIFE 4/66

SUBJ: ARMY INVOLVED IN PERNAMBUCO POLITICS

1. TWO OF PERNAMBUCO'S ARENA LEADERS LAST WEEK MADE AN EARLY
START ON 1970 GUBERNATORIAL RACE. PAULO GUERRA (PSD) AND
CID SAMPAIO (UDN) ARE FORMER GOVERNORS AND LEADERS OF

OPPOSING ARENA FACTIONS. THEIR PERSONAL AMBITIONS TO RETURN
TO OFFICE HAVE ALREADY WIDENED SPLIT WITHIN PARTY ORGANIZATION
AND HAVE BROUGHT BEHIND-THE-SCENES PRESENCE OF FOURTH ARMY
(SEE HBC-860.)
INTO THE ISSUE.

2. FOURTH ARMY REPORTED INVOLVED IN POLITICS FOR THE FIRST
TIME IN 18 MONTHS, SUPPOSEDLY BECAUSE ARMY IS TIRED OF OLD
POLITICOS (OPPOSITION TO SAMPAIO IS WELL KNOWN) AND WOULD

3 LIKE TO PREVENT BOTH GUERRA AND SAMPAIO FROM RETURNING TO
OFFICE. MENTIONED HERE AS NEW POLITICAL BLOOD ARE MINES ANN
ENERGY MINISTER COSTA CAVALCANTI (AN ARMY COLONEL) AND BNB
PRESIDENT, RUBENS COSTA (AN APOLITICAL CIVILIAN). NO
EXPLICIT CONNECTION MADE WITH REPORT OF TRANSFER TO FIRST
ARMY OF FOURTH ARMY COMMANDER SOUZA AGUIAR.

HILLIKER

POL: WPKelly: jbs

CONFIDENTIAL