

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

INCOMING

POLITICAL	
RD	✓
DK	✓
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HV	✓
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2:10 p.m.

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Control:

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Recd: October 4, 1963
0800

FROM: RIO DE JANEIRO

NO : PRIORITY 99, October 3, 8 PM

ACTION PRIORITY DEPT 729 INFO BRASILIA PRIORITY 99

DEPT PASS POLAD/CINCSO AS RIO'S PRIORITY 70

EmbTel 728

Situation becoming additionally confused owing to two factors:

1. Crisis has become polycentrive with substantial number of entities, sergeants, extremist communo-nationalist CGT and orthodox Communist; Goulart, Peri Bevilaqua, Jair, traditionalist-centrist elements of armed forces, Lacerda, Adhemar, and right wing "Golpistas" all acting or thinking of ~~NDT~~ tauthnomously and/or reacting to each other.

2. Crisis in one form or another has been going on for some time now and participants are obviously tired, jumpy and excitiabile.

Situation in Guanabara yesterday and today illustrates state of affairs in which a substantial number of separate events, none apparently of great importance, led to multitude of rumors.

Arrest October 1 of two marine NCO's led to "sitdown strike" of substantial elements of marine garrison on Ilha do Governador in Guarnabara Bay. NCO manifesto of some sort, presumably calling for release of remaining prisoners from Brasilia uprising reportedly discovered in Rio, Naaua and Salvador and ~~there~~ were rumors of impending nationwide agitation on issue and even that prisoners on naval vessels in Rio Bay had or were about to mutiny.

Misunderstanding between army units sent there for some unexplained reason and air forced units at airbase led to rumors air force as body had gone over to sergeants side while reaction of air force personnel on base to unexplained

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Recd:

army presence led army unit to consider calling for reinforcements in view apparently impending air force attack.

Uncertainty as to whereabouts and activities of Lacerda and meetings between Goulart and Waldir Pires and between three military ministers and Jurema led to rumors Lacerda had been or was about to be arrested.

Army returned to state of full alert. According communique issued morning October 3 by War Minister, in view of São Paulo strike situation Second Army has taken "preventive measures" and First Army has occupied key points in Guanabara (of latter only 9 additional tanks and some additional infantry have been observed in or near War Ministry reinforcing existing protective force of 5 tanks and 1 infantry company). Movement of troops and arms, of course, was occasion for additional wave of rumors.

There was reportedly also meeting October 2 in Rio of army and air force senior officers who objected to military ministers statement on Lacerda while number of naval officers reportedly made protest on subject to Navy Minister. These developments too added to general air of confusion and expectancy that something, no one knew quite what, was going to happen.

GP-3

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