

Low Profile Forgotten

Warning of Admiral Puzzles Brazilians

By Latin American Service

RIO DE JANEIRO - The Nixon Administration's carefully cultivated "low profile," was almost blown out of the water here last month by a visiting U.S. 4-star Admiral.

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, the Chief of Naval Operations, arrived here in mid-February at the head of a 14-man mission that included high-ranking military naval officers, and former Congressman Armistead Selden, now Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs.

The visit, primarily a good will trip, included a four-day round of social affairs, and talks with top Brazilian government officials. It also included an exclusive briefing for U.S. newsmen that - as widely predicted - quickly found its way into local Brazilian newspapers.

Admiral Zumwalt's message was that the U.S. navy needs more ships, newer ships and a bigger budget to meet the growing Soviet naval threat all over the world, and especially in the South Atlantic and Indian Ocean.

CITES NAVY NEEDS

It was a familiar plea in Washington, where Navy men have been making frequent trips to Capitol Hill to argue the need for modernization of the fleet, and for more research in such areas as anti-submarine warfare. But it was a bit puzzling to Brazilians, who have been told that the United States is ready to reduce its presence in Latin America, and elsewhere under terms of the Nixon Doctrine.

Zumwalt told the U.S. reporters that the Soviet Union is getting stronger afloat and could soon, at present development rates, deny the U.S. control of the seas. In his view, dominance on the oceans is vital for the United States. Zumwalt leaked the intelligence that the Russians are building a fishing port in southern Chile, and gave his opinion that the port was little more than a preliminary to construction of a full-fledged naval base there.

The remark was loaded with political implications. In Washington later, a hesitant State Department spokesman could only observe that "unfortunately, the Admiral's naval career has not included a hitch in G-2

(intelligence)."

The Zumwalt mission to Rio coincided with a visit by the U.S. nuclear aircraft carrier Enterprise. The huge carrier rode at anchor in Guanabara Bay for more than a week, open to inspection by the populace. Here 5,000 officers and men were given shore leave to give them a taste of Rio's famed pre-lenten Carnival, just then getting underway.

ROLE OF U.S. MILITARY

Zumwalt's remarks, and the visit of the Enterprise, re-enforced a view long held by Brazilians, that the U.S. military establishment plays a big role in the formulation of American foreign policy. Such a view, true or not, is of considerable comfort to a military dictatorship of the kind that currently rules Brazil.

The U.S. Navy has been prominent in Brazil for a long time, ever since the U.S. sent a naval mission in 1922. Under terms of a 50-year old agreement, still in force, Brazil actually pays for the travel of U.S. naval personnel to and from Brazil, accords seniority to U.S. naval officers assigned here, and grants them duty-free privileges for their personal articles.

A House study group headed by Clement Zablocki (Dem.-Wisc) concluded last year that the 50-year old privileges make the U.S. Naval Mission here a virtual "adjunct of the Brazilian Navy." Such togetherness may seem admirable to advocates of close ties between the U.S. military and the armed forces of friendly powers. But it makes our military officers here vulnerable to charges that the U.S. is helping support the Brazilian dictatorship. It also opens the way to charges - false, but damaging - that U.S. military men have helped train their Brazilian counterparts in the techniques of interrogation of prisoners, which here in Brazil means simply "torture."

THORN IN THE SIDE

Civilian officials of the embassy here say they would like to put a rein on the free-wheeling activities of the U.S. military group. But military affairs are run, not out of the embassy, but out of the headquarters of the Southern Command (SOUTHCOM),

located in the Panama Canal Zone. Several Congressional groups have recommended the abolition of SOUTHCOM, but for time being at least, it goes on, a thorn in the side of U.S. ambassadors all over Latin America.

Military men here say it makes little difference to them whether SOUTHCOM continues or not. Even now, what they can't get from headquarters, they find ways to get from their individual army, air force, or navy commands in Washington. And their political clout with the members of military governments makes ambassadors think very carefully before protesting such end runs.

POLITICAL NUANCES

Admiral Zumwalt is not unmindful of the political implications of the U.S. naval and military presence in Latin America. Shortly before he returned to Washington, he pointedly turned down a bid by Chile's Socialist President Salvador Allende to have the Enterprise visit that country. A stop in Chile, said Zumwalt, would be inconvenient, although the Enterprise, on her way home around Cape Horn to her home port of Alameda, California, would pass within a few miles of Valparaiso, Chile's greatest seaport, and one of the world's finest natural harbors.

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NAMES IN THE NEWS

Brazilian author JORGE AMADO says he will never submit to advance censorship and that, if necessary, he will have his books published outside of Brazil. He termed a new Brazilian censorship law to be "an attack against culture, a violence against literature, and a limitation of free speech" In Washington, in a letter to the press, Rio's Charge d'Affairs says that torture charges against his government are "no more than a stale repetition of accusations which the Brazilian government has already rejected" JORGE LUIS ZELAYA



ZELAYA

CORONADO has resigned as Guatemala's Ambassador to the OAS. He had submitted his resignation last summer when the CARLOS ARANA administration came in, but was later confirmed in the OAS post and has now served out a two-year period Peru's Navy turned out to welcome the First Lord of the British Navy, SIR PETER HILL NORTON, who arrived aboard a Royal Air Force plane with his wife and a 16-man commission ABELARDO IBARRA, a 19-year-old Mexican archeologist, found a perfectly preserved tribolite north of San Luis Potosi, and the find was defined by the press as one of the most sensational in Mexico's history. Tribolites, long and flat, grew some two feet long, back in Paleozoic times, millions of years ago.

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MARIA FERNANA LADRON DE GUEVARA, a famous Spanish actress who was widely known by film fans throughout Latin America, is dead in Madrid at 75, after suffering a broken hip several months ago. She was on stage for over 50 years Health Minister of Colombia and Ecuador, in the presence of Ecuador's president, JOSE MARIA VELASCO IBARRA, signed a new frontier health agreement that will permit authorities of both countries, working near the border between the two, to carry out their work more efficiently MARK M. RUTZKY has been named to head Dow's Caribbean sales force, replacing ROBERT F. KINCAID who moves to Caracas.

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PAPA DOC seems to have stepped up plans to turn things over to his son, JEAN CLAUDE. In one of his rare public appearances, DUVALIER will make a July speech at the inauguration of the Peligre dam, one of the most important projects carried out during his 14-years of stewardship. Papa Docologists hint that he may choose Bastille Day, on which he normally sends his greetings to France, to make it official that Haiti now belongs to his son A popular diplomat, whose career was split between Latin America and the rest of the world, is dead of a heart attack at 62. W. WENDELL BLANCKE, first U.S. ambassador to the Congo, started his State career at Buenos Aires and ended it as Consul General at Monterrey, Mexico. In between came such posts as Hanoi, Havana, and Berlin. He authored a new biography, "Juarez of Mexico," that Praeger will soon publish WILLIAM M. DYAL, JR., a former director of the Peace Corps has been named to the executive directorship of the Interamerican Social Development Institute created by Congress last year to support Latin social developments. DYAL served five years with the Peace Corps, some of them in Colombia.



BLANCKE

Preamble Praise Council Fin

NEW YORK - The Council of the Americas, a U.S. business association of 210 corporations who represent some 85% of U.S. private investment in Latin America, announced last week that it had sent its views of the Andean Common Market's foreign investment code to the governments of the five Andean Common Market nations - Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

Although the ultimate objectives of the Cartagena Agreement are highly commendable, according to the Council, the Andean Code is very likely to deter foreign investment in the Latin American subregion.

The Council's analysis of the Andean foreign investment code is composed of two detailed documents. The first is a clause-by-clause evaluation of the Andean Code by executives from seven sectors of U.S. business in the Andean countries - the automobile industry, banking, the drug industry, insurance, manufacturing, mining and petroleum. The second document contains an analysis of the Code, in terms of its effects on foreign investment generally, and on economic development in the Andean Common Market.

The complete, graphically-

Police Arrests In Sao Paulo

SAO PAULO (UPI) - A military prosecutor has asked that 15 policemen be arrested on the presumption that they are members of the "Death Squadron." One of these is the most famous detective in Sao Paulo. If convicted, the 15 could be condemned to death.

Three first grade detectives were named, together with 12 other police officers. The so-called Death Squadron is believed to have been responsible for the execution of hundreds of youthful delinquents over recent years.

All of the accused are being charged by the Municipality of Guarulhos for killings by the Squadron since 1968. They have all declared their innocence.

The step taken by the Military Court is regarded as the most severe thus far against those accused of complicity in murders. The majority of the members of the Death Squadron are believed to be active police-

Copper Mines in Chile Taken Over by Government

SANTIAGO - The Chilean government last week took over operations of the Chuquicamata mines.

Investigating commissions have been set up, Cantuarias