

July 16, 1968

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Dear Tom:

Our mutual friend, Previatti, has come and gone - and I do believe his visit to the United States was fruitful for all of us. The report from Denver would indicate that his organization will affiliate with the IFPCW, and that he will replace Betamio on the World Executive Council of the International Federation.

Previatti's visit with President Meany was a very interesting meeting, and President Meany demonstrated to Previatti the keen interest which he, personally, has in Brazilian labor development. He spoke of other Brazilian labor leaders he had known in the past, and was able to discuss recent developments involving the March Presidential Decree. He has invited Previatti to be the guest of the AFL-CIO Executive Council when it meets in New York in September, which, as you must know, is a high honor indeed. I hope that nothing happens to prevent Previatti from attending the Council Meeting, and giving the Council a report on the Brazilian labor situation at that time.

Previatti also had lunch with Bill Doherty and his people, which I understand was well received by Previatti. I appreciate Previatti's rather difficult situation within the CNTI structure. He has never been confident or comfortable with Campista, who he does not trust, and I do not know what his relations are with Dos Santos. I think perhaps, if his conference with President Meany is given the proper publicity - and the fact that he is to be the guest of the Executive Council in September - it may indicate the type of alliances he has here in the States, and the type of support he can call on when needed.

There is a possibility that I will be in Rio de Janeiro next Sunday with Bill Doherty. While Bill was in Geneva in June, he had a series of conferences with the Brazilian Minister of Labor which were attended by Suiter and Morris Palidino of the ICFTU, Graedel and Dan Benedict of the IMF, and Arturo Jauregui on behalf of ORIT. According to Bill, it was a fruitful conference, and many

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Irritating issues reportedly were clarified. Bill has asked his representatives in Brazil, to call a meeting next Monday, of the leaders of the eight confederations, and has asked me to attend this meeting. Perhaps an opportunity will present itself, to bring to the attention of these leaders, the problems which they appear to be ignoring at this time. In this respect, the observations in your letter of June 21 are extremely valuable, and certainly have provided me with the guidance I so sorely needed.

For the last two years, I have been advocating the establishment of a research center which would serve all of the confederations. I have received tremendous support from Brito of the Bank Workers', as well as from the better elements in the tele-communications field. I think the studies which were made at our instigation with the assistance of the OAS and other governmental agencies, and which were used effectively at the last CNTI Congress, convinced - or should have convinced the Brazilian leaders of the necessity of establishing such an institute of their own, and expanding these studies in all of the areas of labor interest. I have argued for the last two years that this is the only way they can effectively present labor's position on such matters as wage policy, purchasing power, cost of living in general, and other areas where under the present economic policy, labor is bearing the bulk of the sacrifices being asked. If our itinerary is implemented as it is presently drafted, Doherty and I will be arriving in Rio de Janeiro Sunday, July 21 from Argentina on Varig Flight 944, which arrives at 9:20 p.m. We will be staying at the Excelsior Hotel. Unfortunately, I will be leaving late Monday night to return to Washington, where I have a very important conference here in the building.

Perhaps you might be in Rio Monday, and if so, I would certainly appreciate seeing you. If not, I will try to call you from my hotel.

Gloria joins with me in sending our warmest and most affectionate regards to you and to Marquita.

Sincerely,

Andrew C. McLellan
Inter-American Representative

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