

March 8, 1967

Mr. Herbert W. Baker
Labor Attache
American Embassy
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Dear Herb:

Just a note to acknowledge receipt of the tear sheet from the Jornal do Brasil which carried President Meany's article, "Labor's Role in a Frãe Society".

I have received no official notification from the OAS with respect to the forthcoming COSATE Meeting, but in conversations with Leo Suslow a few days ago, I learned that the Meeting has been set for March 20-22 and that the CNTI Congress had been postponed for some later date in April. Under these circumstances, I expect to leave here Friday night, March 17 on Pan American Flight 201 which arrives, as I understand it at 9:45 A.M. on Saturday morning, March 18.

Our mutual friend, Henry Woodbridge, is leaving for Brazil in a few days and is planning to stay at the Hotel Gloria where I expect to stay also. Henry has agreed to stay over to exchange notes with me on March 18. I would appreciate it if you could get me reservations at the Hotel Gloria for the 18th.

Earlier, I had planned to bring Gloria with me, but she picked up a bug of some sort in Florida during our recent visit there and plans to use the period of my absence from Washington for a thorough medical checkup. We are both disappointed, as she was looking forward to her first visit to Brazil. However, I am sure there will be other opportunities at later dates.

I have already received a copy of the new political constitution which I hope to discuss with you when I see you. I also understand that on February 28 some new labor decrees were publicized. All I have learned at this date is that most of them are original proposals by our mutual friend, Arnaldo Sussekind, and that he did not get all of his program enacted into law. I hope that by the time I see you he will have copies of these labor decrees for me.

Yesterday, I wrote a letter to Wagner. In it, I diplomatically suggested that he keep the leaders of the other confederations informed on the economic study now underway and bring them into the COSATE Meeting, perhaps as fraternal observers. I think we must all try to find some acceptable

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formulas which would lead to the eventual unification of the entire Brazilian labor movement, perhaps by eliminating the issues which tend to keep them apart. As an example, I would mention the duplication of effort on the part of the CNTI and the four similar confederations to set up a research and economic institute. It would seem to me that by pooling their economic resources and perhaps the economic resources of the other confederations, that jointly they could have a very effective institute of research and economics to service the seven confederations.

I think we should also look for an acceptable formula on proportional representation in filling these vacancies on tripartite committees, commissions and councils where labor is involved.

We have much to talk about and I am looking forward eagerly to seeing you again, hopefully on March 18.

With best wishes and warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Andrew C. McLellan
Inter-American Representative

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EMBASSY
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA


Rio de Janeiro
February 13, 1967

Mr. Andrew C. McLellan
Inter-American Representative
American Federation of Labor and
Congress of Industrial Organizations
AFL - CIO
815 Sixteenth St., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Andy:

You may be interested in the enclosed tearsheet of the article by President Meany, LABOR'S ROLE IN A FREE SOCIETY, which was placed by USIS in the "Caderno Especial" section of Rio's top daily, JORNAL DO BRASIL, on Sunday, Feb. 12. "Caderno Especial" is devoted to articles of topical importance treated in depth. It is widely followed by governmental, labor, and intellectual readers.

Sincerely yours,


Herbert W. Baker
Labor Attaché

Enclosure