



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

August 17, 1967

Mr. Andrew C. McLellan
Inter-American Representative
American Federation of Labor and
Congress of Industrial Organizations
815 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Andy:

When we returned from leave, I was very happy to meet David Kaplan and remembered my letter to you last year about an AFL-CIO Economic Advisor like Nat Goldfinger accompanying you down here. We are looking forward to talking with him again when he returns to Brazil from British Guiana.

Following up on your letter of July 20 concerning the reactions of ITS Brazil representatives on the CNTI and international representation, you will be interested that CNTI President, João Wagner, and his friend, Professor Fassbender Teixeira, whom you met at the 1965 ILO Conference, are planning to visit the United States in late August. This will give you an opportunity to get his version of this question. I hope by that time he will also have available the printed version of the CNTI Congress Proceedings which includes Professor Rios' analysis of the economic situation. As you know, the CNTI Congress unanimously approved this analysis and it serves as a basis for CNTI policy in its relations with the Government and so forth.

After receiving your letter, we took a look again at the distribution of Brazilian National Trade Union Confederation representation in international organizations and in governmental institutions. As you can see from the following information, most of the available positions in governmental institutions are fairly well distributed and the question of international representation has been partially resolved by an agreement among four of the confederations including the CNTI, CNTC, CONFCOP, and CONFAG, to rotate the ILO Workers' Delegation representation.

It is interesting to note that the counterparts of the Brazil ITS representatives have received significant patronage with

posts in such governmental institutions as the Social Security Administration, the Labor Ministry's Worker Scholarship Council (PEBE) and the new National Housing Bank Advisory Council for the Fundo do Garantia do Tempo do Serviço. For example, National Confederation of Communications Workers (CONTICOP) Secretary-General, Rômulo Teixeira Marinho, and Jorge Coelho Monteiro, spend considerable time on the National Social Security Advisory Council. In addition, CONTICOP president, José Alceu Camara Portocarrero, serves as the worker member on the National Housing Bank's Advisory Council for the Length of Service Guarantee Fund; and CONTICOP treasurer, Gastão Vieira de Araujo Filho, serves on the Labor Ministry's Workers Scholarship Council (PEBE). So you can see the CONTICOP is well represented in these governmental institutions.

In the other Confederations the situation looks like this: the National Federation of Bank Workers is represented in the National Social Security Advisory Councils by Mario Antonio Raimundo and Oswaldo Alves de Andrade. The National Confederation of Commercial Workers president, Antonio Alves de Almeida, was recently appointed to the Superior Labor Court as a judge. The National Confederation of Agricultural Workers president, José Rotta, is also a member of one of the National Social Security Advisory Councils. The National Confederation of Land Transport Workers president, Mario Lopes de Oliveira, spends much of his time as the labor member of the National Social Security Department Advisory Council of the Labor Ministry. In addition, João Airton dos Santos from this confederation is also on another advisory council. The National Confederation of Air, River and Maritime Transport Workers representative on the Labor Ministry's Workers Scholarship Council (PEBE) is Raphael de Souza Ramos. The National Confederation of Industrial Workers is not represented on the National Social Security Advisory Councils, National Housing Bank Advisory Council, nor the Labor Ministry's Workers Scholarship Advisory Council but does have two labor-nominated judges in the Superior Labor Court - Ary Campista and Luiz Menossi. So you can see from the above, all aren't faring too badly. However, until all the Brazilian trade union confederations have a national center, it appears these conflicts you mention and internal political maneuvering on the representation issue, will continue.

The CNTI and the CNTC continue to attempt to apply the principle of proportional representation because they have the largest membership; while the rest of the smaller trade union confederations support the policy of equal representation to guarantee their representation - both domestically and internationally.


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Fortunately, these differences of opinion in internal politics, as yet, have not affected their attitudes toward the United States. They all have been friendly, and we have tried to reciprocate.

Andy, I hope you will find this background useful.

With best regards to you and Gloria from the Baker family,

Sincerely,


Herbert W. Baker
Labor Attaché