

DIST

AMB

DCM

MINECON

POL 2

USIS POL/R SCI MILGP 2

DAO 3

DEAN

INR/CS/BR

ARA/LA/BR

BRAS 2

BELEM V

PALEGRE

RECIFE

SPAULO

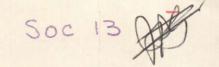
S/PM

CF-2

SALVADOR

INR/RAR/LA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

DATE: April 2, 1970

SUBJECT:

Medici Administration's Position on Population Control

PARTICIPANTS:

Ministro Carlos CALERO Rodriquez, Asst. Secretary General for International Organizations, Foreign Ministry Stephen Low, Counselor of Embassy, Amembassy BRASILIA Richard E. Johnson, Political Counselor, Amembassy RIO

PLACE:

Foreign Office, Brasilia

In the course of a conversation on various subjects, Calero chanced to mention that Brazil finds it necessary to oppose strongly the position which the US takes on population control at international meetings. This led to a lengthy digression onto the question of population control in Brazil. Calhero refused to accept the argument that population controls would aid Brazil's development, advancing the familiar Brazilian thesis that population growth is essential to populate the interior, and said he failed to understand why the US insisted on trying to force others to "reduce their populations." Embassy officers pointed out to him that our efforts both at home and abroad were confined to providing the individual with the knowledge and techniques to make his own free choice. In response to a question, he envisaged no possibility of a change in policy on the subject of birth control under the Medici Administration. Birth control devices and advice will be available to those needing them, but "propaganda" on birth control will not be permitted, he said.

to

POL: REJohnson; sel 4/6/70

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE