

AIRGRAM

004 2 BRAZ

1	1	
1	1	
1	3	5
4	1	
	FBO	AID
		9
	SP	
AGR	COM	FRB
	10	
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
		5
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	10	3
DSD	USIA	NSA
25	8	3
	NSC	
	6	

A-53 UNCLASSIFIED

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FROM : Amconsul Porto Alegre

SUBJECT : BIWEEKLY SUMMARY Nº 41

REF :

1965 JUN 18 PM 4 53
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 BUREAU OF
 INTER-AMERICAN
 ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION
 BRANCH JUN 21 1965
 DATE: 15 JUN 1965
 BH

The Consulate recommends that this document not be disseminated outside U.S. government offices.

POLITICAL

1. Meneghetti and PL Remain at Loggerheads
2. "Back To Normalcy" At City Hall
3. Air Force Plane Bombing Suspects Under Arrest
4. Czechs Still Trying To Sell Trackless Trolleys

PSYCHOLOGICAL

1. Gemini IV Achievement Evokes Considerable Interest
2. Uniformly Favorable Response To Distinguished U.S. Ballet Performance

POLITICAL

1. Meneghetti and PL Remain at Loggerheads

Although attention of the public has been diverted by football, murder trials, the "strip-tease" car (or poor man's Gordini), the U.S. space feat and other considerations, Governor Meneghetti remains in the bad books of certain components of his supporting coalition, particularly the PL, whose distinguished jurist Paulo Brossard has most recently accused the Governor of turning Rio Grande do Sul back into a capitania (old political division of Brazil under early Portuguese rule, where the capitão-mor held absolute sway). The enmity between Governor and party has been carried to such unexpected fields as the problem of milk distribution, which brought about a spat between Meneghetti's private secretary Guido Moesch (who comes from a rich dairy region) and the able Secretary of Economy Otávio Cardoso - PL, who wanted to exercise some control over exactly what happened to milk origi-

FORM 4-62 DS-323

UNCLASSIFIED

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY
 In Out

Drafted by: TJDuffield:DHBarnhart/gb

Contents and Classification Approved by:

Clearances:

1965 JUN 18 PM 8 15
 File - 6/21/65
 NAW
 Action: ARA/BR
 COPYFLO-PBR

nating in that area. Poor Cardoso, independently of his trouble with Moesch, was recently bitten by a rabid dog. A showdown is still awaited on the problem of the reduction in the state employees' salary increase. (See last week's Summary).

2. "Back To Normalcy" At City Hall

Célio Marques Fernandes triumphantly took office again as Mayor of Pôrto Alegre, to the sound of popping sky bombs released from City Hall tower by his jubilant supporters. Although his tenure is no longer threatened, he faces the same old problems, the enmity of the PL, the poor financial situation of the municipal coffers, and the galloping inertia for which the city government has become famous. Possibly, with 19 months to go without worrying about being removed from office, he may bring about some solid accomplishments. He refused to give the traditional abraço to his acting predecessor, Renato Souza (PTB).

3. Air Force Plane Bombing Suspects Under Arrest

The Air Force has taken into custody several persons suspected of having had a part in placing a bomb in a Brazilian military plane bound for Mar del Plata, Argentina (Item 3, Summary Nº 39, June 1, 1965). The suspects include two labor leaders, one the former president of the National Syndicate of Airline Workers, Irajá de Almeida Prates, and the present secretary of the shoemakers' union. Three businessmen were also arrested, and a woman, Emilce Aveline, former president of the Cooperative of Primary Schoolteachers, was seized for questioning but later released. No details concerning confessions, etc. have been made public. In the normal pattern prevailing here, such suspects are usually released several weeks or even months later, for lack of sufficient evidence to prepare a charge that will stick.

4. Czechs Still Trying To Sell Trackless Trolleys

Two officials of the Embassy of Czechoslovakia, Karel Almasy and Jaromir Najman are in Pôrto Alegre for the purpose of trying once again to sell trolley-buses manufactured by the Czech state manufacture of such vehicles. The hope of obtaining the buses, in spite of Brazilian import restrictions, is one which has long been entertained by successive mayors in Pôrto Alegre. The current price would be C\$20 million, and the initial delivery would be of 15 vehicles. Mayor Célio is hoping that a personal visit by him to SUMOC will lead to the granting of currency (US dollars) and authorization to make the purchase. The two Czechs were accompanied on their visit to Pôrto Alegre by Sr. Boaventura Otero, Brazilian representative of the manufacture.

PSYCHOLOGICAL

1. Gemini IV Achievement Evokes Considerable Interest

In spite of other occurrences of interest, the Gemini IV space flight drew

UNCLASSIFIED

3
AIRGRAM A-53
PORTO ALEGRE


large attention from audiences in RGS, and the Consulate has received a number of congratulations, oral and written, over the achievement. An unprecedented height in coverage: Porto Alegre's four main radio stations (Guaiba, Difusora, Farroupilha and Gaúcha) all retransmitted the Voice of America coverage of the flight on June 7.

2. Uniformly Favorable Response To Distinguished U.S. Ballet Performance

The highly modern and unfailingly precise Paul Taylor Dance Company drew a capacity audience and rave notices from the critics of its sole Porto Alegre performance given on June 10. Critics famous either for their severity or for their normal lack of enthusiasm for things American were loud in their praise. In addition, distinguished author Erico Verissimo had the following to say:

"I found the Paul Taylor Group extraordinary. It was one of the finest spectacles I have witnessed in recent times. I could wish that we had with greater frequency samples such as this of what the United States produces in the field of art and literature."

As Erico has recently been engaging in the favorite Latin-American pastime of plucking the Eagle's tail-feathers (albeit with grace and goodwill toward the American people themselves), this tribute from him is no mean one.


Thomas J. Duffield
American Consul

cc: Embassy, Rio
Pol. Section, Brasilia
ARA-LA/BR, Washington
INR/RAR/P, Washington

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 959000