

AIRGRAM

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NOV 30 AM 7 34

INFO : RIO DE JANEIRO, BRASILIA, PARIS, SANTIAGO, RECIFE, BELEM, BELO HORIZONTE, CURITIBA, PORTO ALEGRE, SALVADOR

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1. São Paulo remembers Kennedy.

POLITICAL

1. Adhemar strengthens stand against hard line.

Speaking at a dinner given in his honor by O Cruzeiro magazine, São Paulo Governor Adhemar de BARROS obliquely but harshly criticized the "hard line", deploring movements

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JAN 7, 1965
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of "hate" and claiming, in colorful mixed metaphors, that São Paulo would not become a sacrificial lamb.

Adhemar likewise took exception to the Federal Government's financial policy, objecting specifically to tax increases and removal of gasoline price subsidies. He stressed that he supported the Government in other respects. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: The national forum chosen strengthened the repercussions of this statement, but Adhemar's line was basically similar to that of the last few weeks. Criticism of the GOB financial policy reflects the mood of the local public, as one would expect from a politician as sensitive as the São Paulo Governor. Adhemar's criticism of the hard line appears to reflect much deeper personal fears. Observers have called his speech "preventive medicine". In the past, he had usually referred to his hard-line enemies only by saying that "the Devil is on the loose", "heavy rain is expected", or something equally vague and picturesque. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

2. Lacerdistas angry at Robert Kennedy.

Extreme-leftist Ultima Hora and at least one other local paper gave prominent coverage to Senator-elect Robert Kennedy's reported comparison of Carlos LACERDA and Barry Goldwater. Other papers did not publish the item, and the pro-Lacerda press has not responded. In private, however, São Paulo Lacerdistas seem to accept the newspaper report as fact. Some of them have mentioned their displeasure to ConGen officers. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: As it happens, the few Goldwater fans in São Paulo do seem to come from the ranks of Lacerda's supporters. Most Lacerdistas, nevertheless, were rooting for President Johnson, and they do not see their idol in the same light as Senator Goldwater. (UNCLASSIFIED)

3. Leftist PDC leaders flee to Chile.

According to a report in Ultima Hora, two leaders of the extremist wing of the Christian Democratic Party have decided to take up residence in Chile, where they will be "university professors". They are Paulo de Tarso (SANTOS) and Plínio de Arruda SAMPAIO, both of whom were PDC Federal Deputies from São Paulo until the revolutionary Government unseated them and suspended their political rights for ten years. The newspaper reports that they were originally refused political asylum by the Chilean Embassy, which later relented for Paulo de Tarso, while Plínio had to go to the Paraguayans. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: Brazil is better off without them. Plínio is extremely intelligent and Paulo de Tarso is a fairly talented politician, but both were opportunists who collaborated very closely with Communist initiatives. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

4. MTR nominates Janista for mayor.

A convention of the Movimento Trabalhista Renovador (MTR) on November 21 nominated José Vincente de Faria LIMA for the São Paulo mayoralty race. He was publicly supported by ex-President Jânio QUADROS, who was the front-running candidate himself until his political rights were suspended by the revolutionary government. At the convention, Faria Lima was opposed by incumbent Vice Mayor José Freitas NOBRE, who argued (1) that Jânio had no business being active politically and (2) that the convention had been illegally packed by Janistas. Freitas Nobre has promised to contest the nomination in the electoral courts on both counts. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: Freitas Nobre's threat is taken seriously, though most politicians assume that Faria Lima will, in one way or another, manage to be a candidate. With Jânio's backing, he will be one of the more important ones, as he is moderately well known and attractive in his own right. If the Janistas successfully bargain for the support of Lacerda's or CARVALHO PINTO's followers, Faria Lima would become very important. The split in the Janista sector, with Lino de MATOS also a candidate, does not present impossible obstacles.

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So far, however, the São Paulo mayoralty campaign is still a race of tired horses, and one wonders whether a stronger competitor will not enter. The present situation is a sad commentary on the fractionalized, mercenary local party structure. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

5. Bidault snipes at De Gaulle.

Georges BIDAULT, currently living in exile on a São Paulo farm, gave national magazine O Cruzeiro an article strongly critical of President de Gaulle. With curt irony that came across even in translation, Bidault accused the French President of being only a "publicity success", of torpedoing the Atlantic Alliance, and of talking about a "Latin Community" that would be viable "except that there is no money for it". Bidault hinted that the French Empire in Africa might yet be restored and, as to his personal plans, said that he might accept Carlos Lacerda's invitation to become a professor of political science in Guanabara. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: M. Bidault's host told the ConGen several weeks ago that this interview was planned. It would seem to stretch the right of political asylum. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

6. Free world labor leader criticizes continuing union interventions.

Pieter de VRIES, Secretary General of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF), a democratically-oriented International Trade Secretariat, visited São Paulo and Santos on November 17 and 18. The stated purpose of his visit was to make personal contact with ITF affiliates and study the local labor scene.

At a Santos press conference, de Vries reportedly said that Labor Minister SUSSEKIND's optimism regarding the Brazilian labor picture was "far removed from reality". Santos and São Paulo newspapers quoted him as stating that "the Brazilian workers

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are prevented from pressing their demands by the prolonged interventions in their unions"; that contrary to overseas opinion, "industrial peace does not exist in Brazil"; and that if the present interventions continue much longer, "a serious social crisis could occur". (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comment: Many democratic labor leaders in Santos, chafing under restrictions placed on their activities by Port Captain Julio de SÁ BIERRENBACH (Weekly Summary of September 3), welcomed de Vries' remarks. However, one Santos source informed the Consulate General that the Port Captain was so annoyed that he phoned his superior in Rio de Janeiro requesting permission to arrest the ITF official. Fortunately no such arrest occurred. A retired army officer attached to the National Security Council told the Labor Officer he believed visits like that of de Vries should be prohibited.

The prolonged union interventions are undoubtedly unpopular. However, if free elections were held immediately in formerly Communist-dominated São Paulo and Santos unions now under intervention, in many cases worker resentment against the Federal Government would likely lead to victory for pro-Communist slates. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

PSYCHOLOGICAL1. São Paulo remembers Kennedy.

Public officials and private citizens came in numbers to a mass offered by the Congen on the anniversary of President Kennedy's death, filling the aisles of the large metropolitan cathedral. Attendance was also excellent for a wreath-laying ceremony at the Kennedy monument, and flowers were spontaneously added throughout the day. Groups in the capital city and the interior carried out many almost unpublicized commemorative acts. Outstanding among them were: Santos' dedication of a public square called "Praça Kennedy", Campinas' dedication of a stained glass window, Taubate's unveiling of a photograph in the Municipal Chamber, and Serra Negra's inauguration of "Kennedy Park". (UNCLASSIFIED)

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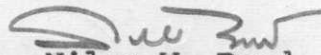
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Comment: These demonstrations would clearly prove, were proof needed, that Kennedy's death moved Paulistas in a way that can happen only a few times in each century. (UNCLASSIFIED)



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Minister Consul General

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