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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
APR 1 1963

FROM : Amembassy, Brasilia Office DATE: March 25, 1963

SUBJECT : Conversation with Goulart's Foreign Policy Adviser

Letter drafted to drafter
4/13/63 by H.A. Quinlan
File

REF :

Attached is a memorandum of conversation between Embassy officers in Brasilia and Jayme Azevedo Rodrigues, the foreign affairs adviser on President Goulart's Assessoria Técnica (A-939).*ara*

Highlights: (1) Rodrigues drafted the chapter on foreign relations in the recent Presidential message to Congress (Embtel 172). He included in his draft the statement that Brazil would recognize Communist China, which was deleted by Foreign Minister Hermes Lima; (2) Accusations by the U.S. of Communist infiltration in the Brazilian Government are taken by Goulart as attempts to give support to the Right and have the net effect of making him strengthen still more the leftist element in the Army; (3) Although Rodrigues regrets it, it is nonetheless necessary for Brazil to now pursue a course which will take it, for some time at least, away from the U.S.

Comment: Rodrigues is entwined in paradoxes and contradictions, as evidenced in his desire to send Brazilians to Harvard while in the same breath damning the U.S. for Brazil's troubles. Renato Archer, PSD deputy from Maranhão and sometimes rumored as successor to Hermes Lima as Foreign Minister, recently, in conversation with a friend of the reporting officer, described Rodrigues as "crazy" and "irresponsible." Unfortunately, Rodrigues now appears

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Drafted by: POL:HWeiner/jhm

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to have the ear of the President, and while some of his more extreme recommendations appear to have been vetoed by cooler heads, this may not always be the case in the future.

For the Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.:

John Keppel

John Keppel
Counselor of Embassy
for Political Affairs

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

March 19, 1963

PARTICIPANTS: Jayme Azevedo Rodrigues,
Foreign Affairs Adviser on
the President's Assessoria Técnica

John Keppel, Counselor of Embassy
for Political Affairs

Harry Weiner, Political Officer, Brasilia

PLACE: Hotel Nacional, Brasilia

SUBJECT: U.S.-Brazil Relations

All remarks are those of Rodrigues, except when otherwise identified.

1. The U.S. must recognize that Brazil's international actions in the coming years will draw her away from the United States. This is necessary because of the long history of abuse of Latin America by the United States. He does not care for Brizola personally, but Brizola's term "process of spoliation" accurately describes U.S.-Brazil economic relations. But if the U.S. acts "intelligently" (i.e., stops making accusations of Communist infiltration), Brazil will someday "return." This parting of the ways is regrettable, but the fault lies with the U.S. Mr. Keppel pointed out that U.S. policy is directed toward assisting Brazil in achieving rapid, peaceful social and economic transformation. Rodrigues nodded politely but seemed to prefer to ignore the idea since it did not fit well with his own views.

2. Whenever the U.S. complains about communist influence, it makes Jango think that the U.S. purpose is to give moral support to right-wingers who would like to oust him. "The net result of such a complaint is that Jango goes out looking for support and gets himself another leftist general."

3. Without the aid and support of such men as Evandro Lins e Silva, General Osvino Alves and Leonel Brizola, Jango would soon fall victim to a coup.

4. Jango does not have an especially warm feeling for the U.S. since he was raised in the anti-American atmosphere surrounding Vargas.

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5. The Assessoria Técnica should ideally number about 12 people. It now numbers 30, with the excess largely consisting of economists. In foreign affairs, however, he is the sole adviser. Due to cramped space, the Palácio Planalto is not a suitable working area, but members of the Assessoria are reluctant to move to other buildings for fear their influence will diminish if they get out of range of the President.

6. He wrote the section on foreign affairs of the Presidential message to Congress (Embtel 172 and Weeka 12). In his draft, he wrote that Brazil would extend diplomatic recognition to Communist China, but Foreign Minister Hermes Lima deleted that portion "without permitting any discussion of the matter." Lima made other changes for "political reasons," his complaint being that the tone was too "vivid" and "positive," i.e., possibly offensive to the U.S.

7. Ambassador to the U.S. Roberto Campos is much too friendly to the U.S.

8. Within the Brazilian Government nowadays, particularly with people on the way up, it is increasingly difficult to take a moderate, conciliatory position toward the U.S. The tendency to oppose the U.S. is increasing. Fifteen years ago, when he was an instructor at the Rio Branco Institute, where entering foreign service officers are trained, 8 of every 10 entering was a "conservative." Now the ratio is reversed in favor of the "left."

9. He has never trusted Santiago Dantas (the implication being that Dantas would desert the "forces of progress" if it suited him to do so). Differences with Dantas were a cause of his having left the Foreign Office for more than a year.

10. It would profit both countries if Harvard (where Rodrigues did graduate work) could accept a number of young Brazilian FSO's. There they would acquire the "Western values" he has acquired.

HWeiner/jhm

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