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TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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INFO : RIO DE JANEIRO, BRASILIA, SÃO PAULO

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ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION
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FROM : Amconsul, BELO HORIZONTE

DATE: August 12, 1964

SUBJECT : Comments Of UDN Deputy Monteiro de Castro On Current
Difficulties Of Ademar de Barros

REF : -

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
AUG 19 1964

During a brief conversation with the reporting officer on August 7, José MONTEIRO DE CASTRO, UDN Federal Deputy from Minas declared: (a) the President had told him and other Deputies a few days earlier that São Paulo Governor Ademar de BARROS would not be removed from office. According to Monteiro de Castro, the President said that Barros had expiated his past sins by helping to depose the GOULART regime; (b) he expected congressional action on the question of extending gubernatorial mandates in about two weeks, but was unsure of the eventual decision; (c) the Chamber has changed its dilatory ways, and is functioning better than ever before, under the terms of the Institutional Act; (d) LACERDA's intemperate attacks on the National Administration are losing him support among UDN representatives in Brasilia.

Comment. The recent difficulties of the Paulista Governor have been followed closely by Mineiro politicians, most of whom incline to the view that São Paulo Lacerdistas (not necessarily Lacerda himself) have spurred the local military into anti-Barros activity, because of pique at seeing the São Paulo Governor the only openly-avowed, pre-March 31 presidential candidate thus far unharmed by some action of the CASTELO BRANCO administration. This was also the interpretation given to the anti-Barros campaign by PSP Federal Deputies Arnaldo CERDEIRA and Bento GONÇALVES Filho (respectively First and Second Vice Presidents of Ademar's party) during their one-day stay in Belo Horizonte on August 5.

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Drafted by:
HSOkun:kfk
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RMR Gilce
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Belo Horizonte
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In this connection, sources close to Magalhães Pinto have told the Consulate that recent press reports of a Barros-Magalhães Pinto "pact" to provide civil support for Castelo Branco (and mutual support for each other) were, in fact, completely fictitious. The sources declare (not without admiration) that Barros invented the entire story as one of his defensive maneuvers against those who are seeking to get rid of him.

Monteiro de Castro, an experienced UDN politician on the state and national level (he was an official of the Civil Household during the short-lived presidency of CAFÉ FILHO in 1955), went to Brasília on August 4 to assume his Federal Deputy's seat, from which he had been granted leave of absence ever since his election in 1962. Monteiro de Castro has been a fixture in Magalhães Pinto's cabinet over the past three years (he is now Secretary of Public Safety) and went to Brasília at Magalhães Pinto's behest, as the Minas Gerais Governor's contact man and spokesman during congressional consideration of the question of extending gubernatorial terms.

Herbert S. Okun
Herbert S. Okun
American Consul

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