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ACTION ARA 16

INFO OCT 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 00,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, IO 13, PC 04, RSR 01, E 15,

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AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 193

RIO PASS OTHER POSTS.

1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH CIVIL HOUSEHOLD MINISTER RONDON PACHECO.
2. FORTHCOMING POLITICAL LEGISLATION: LEGISLATION ON WHICH THE MINISTER IS WORKING COVERING POLITICAL PARTIES, ELIGIBILITY, ELECTIONS, AND RULES FOR CONGRESS, DOES NOT PROVIDE MAJOR PROBLEMS IN THE ACTUAL DRAFTING, BUT RATHER IN SUCCESSFUL ACCEPTANCE IN THE PRESENT POLITICAL CLIMATE. UPON COMPLETION OF DRAFTS, LEGISLATION WILL BE SUBMITTED TO COMMISSION OF JURISTS PRESUMABLY FROM OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT. PROCESS WHICH IS BEING FOLLOWED IS SLOW AND DELIBERATE, AIMED AT BUILDING SUPPORT.
3. AGRICULTURAL REFORM ACT: ACT DRAFTED BY PACHECO WAS COMPROMISE BETWEEN DRAFTS SUBMITTED BY PLANNING MINISTRY AND JUSTICE MINISTRY. IMPORTANCE OF ACT LIES LESS IN ITS PROVISIONS THAN IN MANNER IN WHICH IT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED.
4. CONGRESS: MINISTER VERY FIRM THAT PRESENT CONGRESS MUST SERVE AS ELECTORAL BODY FOR SELECTION OF NEXT PRESIDENT. NO OTHER SOLUTION (WHICH WENT OUTSIDE '67 CONSTITUTION) WOULD

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BE ACCEPTABLE TO PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA. IT IS THEREFORE ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL PRESENT CONGRESS RECALLED. TIMING WILL DEPEND ON POLITICAL OPPORTUNITY.

TM COSTA E SILVA AND CASTELLO BRANCO: THE MINISTER WAS FULL OF TALK OF CASTELLO BRANCO AND HIS GOVERNMENT. HE DESCRIBED EASY GIVE AND TAKE WITH CASTELLO'S LAST MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

CASTELLO BRANCO WAS A MAN WHO, AS WIDOWER, WAS MARRIED TO HIS JOB AND LOVED POLITICS. MINISTER'S SILENCE ON COSTA E SILVA THIS REGARD IMPLIES HE LESS INTERESTED. BOTH COSTA E SILVA AND CASTELLO BRANCO DEDICATED TO CONSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. THE LATTER COMMUNICATED WIDELY WITH THE POLITICAL GROUP IN CARRYING OUT HIS OBJECTIVES (PACHECO SHOWED TAPED TOGETHER NOTES FROM THE FORMER PRESIDENT AS EVIDENCE OF THIS INTIMATE INVOLVEMENT IN DAILY POLITICAL AFFAIRS). COSTA E SILVA IS A MAN WHO THINKS AS HE TALKS AND SPEAKS HIS WHOLE MIND BUT RESTRICTS HIS CONTACTS TO A LIMITED GROUP.

6. COMMENT: THOUGH MINISTER DID NOT IDENTIFY THEM HE REFERRED TO FORCES OPPOSING STEPS TOWARD NORMALIZATION AND DESCRIBED THE PROCESS OF ACHIEVING IT AS CHESS GAME. IMPRESSION GIVEN CLEARLY ONE OF WEIGHING AND TESTING EACH MOVE IN PROCESS OF INSTITUTIONALIZATION NEW POLITICAL STRUCTURE. MINISTER BELIEVES VISIT OF GOVERNOR ROCKEFELLER WILL BE IMPORTANT ELEMENT WHICH WILL HELP CONSIDERABLY IN NORMALIZATION EFFORT, BUT HE IN NO WAY MINIMIZED DIFFICULTIES WHICH MUST BE OVERCOME. WITHOUT SAYING SO, PACHECO IMPLIED ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THE PROBLEMS AND DIFFICULTIES CREATED BY THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, PRESUMABLY ITS MINISTER, GAMA E SILVA. IMPLIED ALSO WAS DISAPPOINTMENT AT LIMITED COMMUNICATION WHICH PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA HAS WITH POLITICAL GROUPS IN SPITE OF CLEAR INTENTION TO PUSH NORMALIZATION PROCESS. MINISTER, WHO HAS ALWAYS BEEN RESERVED AND CAUTIOUS, SEEMS EVEN MORE SO SINCE DEATH OF ONLY SON LAST SEPTEMBER. WHATEVER MAY HAVE BEEN THE REASON, HE APPEARED TIRED AND DISCOURAGED. CERTAINLY DID NOT REFLECT CONFIDENCE THAT NORMALIZATION PROCESS WOULD BE EASY ONE.

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