



Department of State

POL 15-BRAZ
TELEGRAM

47

CONFIDENTIAL 933

PAGE 01 BRASIL 01893 122205Z

87

ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01, /114 W

R 122041Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 685
INFO AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO 838
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 305
AMCONSUL RECIFE 132

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 1893

SUBJ: PRESIDENT SCOTCHES REPORTS OF CABINET RESHUFFLE;
MOVE TO SOFTEN NATIONAL SECURITY LAW

REF: RIO 5414

1. CABINET: IN PRESENCE ALL HIS CABINET MINISTERS
MEETING FEB 9 IN PETROPOLIS, PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA
TOLD PRESS--CALLED TOGETHER SPECIFICALLY TO HEAR HIS
STATEMENT--HE "NOT CONSIDERING, HAD NOT CONSIDERED AND
NOT THINKING OF CONSIDERING MINISTERIAL CHANGES." STATED

PAGE 2 RUESUZ 1893 C O N F I D E N T I A L
HE FULLY SATISFIED WITH MINISTRY WHICH HAD SHOWN "HIGH
PUBLIC SPIRIT, INCLUDING THROUGH TOLERANCE OF INSULTS."
URGED PRESS REFRAIN "AT LEAST FOR NEXT THREE MONTHS"
FROM PUBLISHING REPORTS OF CABINET REFORM WHICH WERE
DESIGNED ONLY PERTURB ADMINISTRATION.

2. MUNICIPALITIES BILL: SAME DAY PRESIDENT

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 969000

Brasilia 1893
2/12/68



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRASIL 01893 122205Z

ASSURED VISITING GROUP STATE DEPUTIES POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WOULD NOT INFLUENCE ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION RE MUNICIPALITIES OF INTEREST TO NATIONAL SECURITY. SAID ONLY MUNICIPALITIES IN FRONTIER ZONES OR WITH MINERAL RESERVES REQUIRING PERMANENT SUPERVISION AND CONTROL WOULD COME UNDER NATIONAL SECURITY CONCEPT. THIS MIGHT NUMBER 60-80, PRESIDENT QUOTED AS STATING (IN CONTRAST 234 IN FIRST PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT).

3. SECURITY LAW: MINISTER JUSTICE GAMA E SILVA ALSO MOVED FEB 9 HAVE SUPREME COURT DECLARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLE 48 OF NATIONAL SECURITY LAW DECREED IN MARCH 1967. ARTICLE DEPRIVES OF EMPLOYMENT ANY

PAGE 3 RUESUZ 1893 C O N F I D E N T I A L
PERSON ARRESTED IN ACT OF CRIME AGAINST SECURITY OR DENOUNCED FOR ALLEGED VIOLATION NATIONAL SECURITY LAW, UNTIL SUCH TIME AS HE ABSOLVED BY COURTS. ARTICLE ALSO PROVIDES HEAVY FINE FOR SUCH PERSON'S SUPERVISOR IF LATTER PERMITS VIOLATION ITS PROVISIONS. GAMA E SILVA ACTED ON BASIS REPRESENTATION AGAINST ARTICLE 48 BY BRAZILIAN BAR ASSOCIATION.

4. POLITICAL "PACIFICATION" PLAN: BAHIA GOVERNOR LUIS VIANNA OVER WEEKEND EXPLORED "PACIFICATION" WITH OPPOSITION AND PRO-GOVERNMENT POLITICIANS, INCLUDING ARENA PRESIDENT DANIEL KRIEGER AND SAO PAULO GOVERNOR ABREU SODRE. VIANNA TOLD PRESS PRESIDENT WILLING GIVE MDB SOME REPRESENTATION IN ADMINISTRATION UNDER SCHEME. SODRE AND SAO PAULO MAYOR FARIA LIMA (WHOSE ADHERENCE ARENA APPARENTLY IMMINENT) AFTER MEETING WITH KRIEGER ISSUED JOINT NOTE CALLING FOR "RECONCILIATION OF POLITICAL FORCES INTEGRATED IN PARTIES." MEANWHILE PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA MOVED "PACIFY" OWN PARTY, MAKING CLEAR THROUGH KRIEGER THAT ARENA DISSIDENTS

PAGE 4 RUESUZ 1893 C O N F I D E N T I A L

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 969000



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BRASIL 01893 122205Z

SEEKING FORM INDEPENDENT PRESSURE BLOC IN CHAMBER DEPUTIES WOULD BE TREATED LIKE MEMBERS OPPOSITION IF THEY PERSISTED. IN FACE THIS THREAT DISSIDENT MOVEMENT APPEARED WEAKENING.

5. COMMENT: (A) PRESIDENT APPARENTLY ANNOYED AT REPEATED REPORTS OF IMMINENT CABINET CHANGES, AND DETERMINED AVOID ANY APPEARANCE ACTING UNDER PRESSURE. THUS CABINET RESHUFFLE, WHICH WOULD BE LOGICAL AND HAS BEEN EXPECTED OCCUR AT END PRESIDENT'S FIRST YEAR IN MARCH, WILL APPARENTLY BE POSTPONED EVEN THOUGH PRESIDENT HIMSELF PROBABLY RECOGNIZES DESIRABILITY SOME CHANGES. IN VIEW FAIRLY WIDESPREAD MILITARY DISENCHANTMENT WITH PERFORMANCE OF SOME CABINET MINISTERS, REACTION WITHIN MILITARY -- IF ANY -- TO PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT WILL BE WORTH WATCHING. (B) ADMINISTRATION'S MOVE TO REVOKE ART 48 OF SECURITY LAW REPRESENTS EFFORT AMELIORATE PUBLIC IMAGE AND IS SMALL BUT WELCOME CORRECTIVE STEP.

PAGE 5 RUESUZ 1893 C O N F I D E N T I A L
TUTHILL

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 969000