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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 IO-13 AID-28
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FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4431
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCON SAO PAULO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L RIO DE JANEIRO 2639

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT MEDICI DEFENDS FOREIGN POLICY

1. PRESIDENT MEDICI, ADDRESSING GRADUATING CLASS FONOFF ACADEMY BRASILIA APRIL 20, GAVE WHAT BILLED "MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT". CENTRAL THRUST SPEECH -- BRAZIL'S FOREIGN POLICY WILL BE PART AND PARCEL NATION'S DEVELOPMENTAL STRATEGY.

2. FULL PORTUGUESE TEXT BEING POUCHED. FOLLOWING SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS:

A. TWO MAJOR AIMS MEDICI FOREIGN POLICY WILL BE: (1) DEFENSE NATIONAL SECURITY; THROUGH (2) INCREASED DIALOGUE AMONG NATIONS AND REDUCING INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS. BRAZIL DOES NOT HAVE CLAIMS AGAINST FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS OTHER STATES. BELIEVES IN NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES.

B. TO EXECUTE POLICY, BRAZIL WILL SEEK CHANGES RULES INTERNATIONAL BEHAVIOR, FROM PRESENT SYSTEM WHICH THOUGH TRADITIONALLY ADAPTABLE, NOW ALMOST STATIC.

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C. OUR COUNTRY REFUSES BELIEVE HISTORY NECESSARILY DEMONSTRATES WHAT BENEFITS SOME IS PREJUDICIAL TO OTHERS. . AND AFFIRMS RIGHT OF COUNTRY FORGE WITHIN FRONTIERS OWN DESTINY AND CHOOSE, OUTSIDE BOUNDARIES, OWN ALLIANCES AND DIRECTION".

D. VERY FACT THAT BRAZIL GROWING WILL TEND CREATE INTERNATIONAL CONFLICTS INTEREST. "WE WILL FACE THIS WITH TRANQUILLITY, WITHOUT FEAR OR ALARM, AS SIGNAL GROWTH ITSELF. ."

E. "WE WILL REPEL WHATEVER ATTEMPT, UNDER WHATEVER PRETEXT, RESTORATION ZONES OF INFLUENCE OR IMPOSITION BY ONE COUNTRY OR GROUP OF COUNTRIES ITS POLITICAL VIEWS ON OTHERS".

F. BRAZIL SEES ITSELF IN "SOLIDARITY WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AMONG THOSE IN PARTICULAR. . LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNITY". KEY THRUST GOB POLICY CONTAINED ONE WORD "DEVELOPMENT" BECAUSE "FOR PEOPLES LATIN AMERICA ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE REPRESENTS IN 20TH CENTURY WHAT POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE REPRESENTED 19TH CENTURY".

G. ". . NEGOTIATIONS DERIVING CONSENSUS VINA DE MAR ARE, IN THEMSELVES, CLEAR INDICATION THAT FIRMNESS AND TENACITY CAN ACHIEVE POSITIVE OBJECTIVES".

H. BRAZILIAN NATION HAS ALL VITAL FORCES COMMITTED IMPLEMENTATION GREAT TECHNOLOGICAL LEAP, WITHOUT WHICH IMPOSSIBLE ACCELERATE RHYTHM DEVELOPMENT. FOR THIS REASON, BRAZIL MUST HAVE HANDS FREE ALL SECTORS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND PEACEFUL APPLICATION NEW, UNLIMITED ENERGY SOURCES. BRAZIL REFUSES COMPROMISE ITS FUTURE, OR OBLIGATE ITSELF TO INTERNATIONAL SCHEMES IN WHICH ITS RIGHTS AND PREROGATIVES ARE DENIED, AND THAT INTEND PERPETUATE PRIVILEGE FOR SOME. SIGNALS ALREADY APPEARING THAT "ERA OF NEGOTIATIONS SUCCEEDING ERA OF CONFRONTATION".

3. BRAZILIAN PRESS APRIL 21 REPORTED MEDICI ADDRESS AS DECLARATION GOB INTENTION FORGE "INDEPENDENT" FOREIGN POLICY. NEWSPAPERS ALL PERSUASIONS GAVE PROMINENT SPACE WITH HEADLINE TREATMENT PRESIDENT'S DECLARATION THAT "BRAAZIL WANTS HANDS FREE" STATEMENT (PARA 2H ABOVE) AS WELL AS PROMISE THAT "WE DO NOT BELIEVE WORLD GOING THROUGH SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION ONLY FOR EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT MOST DEVELOPED NATIONS". PRESS ALSO STRESSED THAT BRAZIL ABOUT

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BEGIN "GREAT TECHNOLOGICAL LEAP" INTO RANKS DEVELOPED NATIONS.

4. INDICATIVE NATIONALISTIC REACTION SPEECH WAS EXTREME TREATMENT ACCORDED BY TRIBUNA DA IMPRESNA (ANTI-US, NATIONALIST LINE). PUBLISHER HELIO FERNANDES BANNERED HALF-PAGE-ONE EDITORIAL TITLED "NEW MEDICI ADDRESS: COURAGE, CLARITY, AND DIGNITY IN DEFENSE OUR FUTURE". FERNANDES GAVE RAVE REVIEW MEDICI FOR FOLLOWING TRIBUNA'S REPEATED ADVICE TO "TELL IT LIKE IS", WITHOUT "DIPLOMATIC NICETIES", CLAIMING THAT BRAZIL WILL "REPEL" THOSE ACTIONS BY SELF-STYLED "OWNERS OF WORLD" WHO TRYING DIVIDE WORLD INTO TWO SPHERES INFLUENCE, ONE PROPERTY US, OTHER SLAVE USSR. AFTER INTERPRETING EACH MEDICI PHRASE IN MANNER MOST IN KEEPING FERNANDES' OWN READING INTERNATIONAL EVENTS, HE CONCLUDED WITH PERSONAL INTERPRETATION SIGNIFICANCE SPEECH AT THIS TIME US-BRAZIL RELATIONS. ACCORDING FERNANDES, SPEECH NOT ONLY PERSONAL EXPRESSION PRESIDENT, BUT ALSO RESULT LONG TERM STUDY BY ESTADO MAIOR LEVEL OF GOB. HE CLAIMED THIS CAME ON TOP OF AMBASSADOR ELBRICK'S SPEECH AFTER CUTTER KIDNAP ATTEMPT WHICH FAR SURPASSED SIMPLY PROTET AND DONE UNDER DIRECT ORDER STATE DEPARTMENT. THAT ACT PROMPTED FONMINS'S INDIGNANT REPLY WHICH ALSO DONE ON ORDERS FROM ABOVE. NEXT STEP IN FERNANDES' SCENARIO IS FOR AMBASSADOR ELBRICK BE RECALLED AS "HOSTILE ACT AND IN RETRIBUTION FOR MEDICI SPEECH", AND NOT BE REPLACED.

5. BALANCING TRIBUNA'S TREATMENT, JORNAL DO BRASIL EDITORIAL APRIL 23 TRIED PLACE SPEECH PROPER PERSPECTIVE BY SAYING PRESIDENT MERELY REITERATED WELL KNOWN TRUTHS THAT TO BE SOVERIGN NATION MUST FOLLOW "INDEPENDENT" FOREIGN POLICY. EDITORIAL DENIED THAT SPEECH WAS CALL RETURN GOULART'S USE FOREIGN POLICY AS DOMESTIC INSTRUMENT OR QUADROS ATTEMPT STRIKE OUT NEW DIRECTIONS SUCH AS ESTABLISHMENT RELATIONS CUBA. JORNAL SAW SPEECH INSTEAD AS SIMPLE PLEA FOR "OBJECTIVE, REALISTIC DEFENSE" NATIONAL INTERESTS.

6. COMMENT: DESPITE TENDENCY IN SOME CIRCLES TO INTERPRET PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AS RADICAL NEW THRUST GOB INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY, EMBASSY FEELS NEITHER WORDS THEMSELVES NOR PRESIDENT'S INTENTION WERE ANYTHING THAT NOT COMPLETELY CONSISTENT WITH GOB'S RECENT ACTIONS, DECLARATIONS DEFINING BRAZIL'S SELF-IMAGE AS NATION ON THRESHOLD DEVELOPMENT WHICH MUST LOOK OUT FOR ITS OWN INTERESTS. EMPHASIS SPEECH PUT ON ALIGNING BRAZIL WITH

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REST OF UNDERDEVELOPED WORLD PERHAPS BLUNTER THAN PREVIOUSLY STATED BUT NOT SURPRISING. MEDICI CITED RECENT EXTENSION TERRITORIAL SEA TO 200 MILES AS EXEMPLIFYING BRAZIL'S EFFORTS CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES' BIRTHRIGHT, BY SOVEREIGN ACT, AND IN CONCERT OTHER LATAMS TO FORCE NEW INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE DEVELOPING WORLD. EMBASSY SEES SPEECH AS CLEAREST ENUNCIATION TO DATE OF POLICY IN EVIDENCE SOME TIME -- EVIDENT FROM EFFORTS FORCE NEW MARITIME POLICY, SEABED MORATORIUM, NPT REFUSAL, TERRITORIAL SEAS EXTENSION -- OF BRAZIL INCREASINGLY WILLING ADOPT TOUGH, INDEPENDENT POSITION WHEN IT SEES ANY THREAT ITS EFFORTS TO DEVELOP. WE SHOULD NOT BE MISLED IF INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS WITH PERSONAL AXES TO GRIND (SUCH AS FERNANDES) TRY USE AND ABUSE SUCH STATEMENTS AS EVIDENCE BRAZIL CONSCIOUSLY HEADING DOWN ANTI-US PATH. EMBASSY CONTACTS AT ALL LEVELS GOB INDICATE OPPOSITE IS TRUE, THAT GOB WELCOMES US PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ASSISTANCE AS LONG AS BRAZIL'S PRIMACY IN SETTING ITS OWN GOALS AND STRATEGY MAINTAINED INVIOLE. WE DO HOWEVER FORESEE INCREASING BRAZILIAN SENSITIVITY TO ALLEGED US "PRESSURES", IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS AS WELL AS FOREIGN.
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