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SUGGESTED WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT

President Castello Branco of Brazil in late December invited President Johnson to visit Brazil. Following the President's State of the Union Message on January 4, the President received invitations from several other Latin American countries. The President is especially anxious to visit Latin America and to talk to the Presidents of these countries. Because it would not be possible to visit all of them, ^{contribute this year} the President suggested to the Brazilian President that he consider inviting the South American Presidents to meet with them at Rio de Janeiro. The Brazilian President agreed and a meeting will take place at Rio de Janeiro April 29-May 1 of the Brazilian and United States Presidents and other South American Presidents who wish to attend. The meeting will be entirely informal without agenda or formal communique at the end of the meeting. Its purpose is to permit the Presidents to exchange views on world and hemisphere problems.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

2/13

Mr. Reedy:

Attached is a suggested statement on the President's trip to Latin America.

Tom Mann would like to coordinate any statement with the Brazilians.

The status of the operation is that State is consulting with the nine other South American Presidents to see if they wish to attend. We should be getting answers over the weekend and on Monday.

Bob Sayre

THE WHITE HOUSE
 WASHINGTON

Mr. President:

Bob Sayre sent this to me.
 Do you approve?

YES
☒ NO

GER

Feb. 15/65
 10:30

RECEIVED
 FEB 13 1965