

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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1966 JAN 7 PM 4 15

FM AMEMBASSY RIODEJANEIRO  
TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 1574  
RUESSD/AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO FLASH 95  
STATE GRNC  
BT

DECLASSIFIED

Authority State 2-22-77  
By RJ, NARS, Date 3-14-77

~~SECRET~~ JANUARY 7

REF: SANTO DOMINGO TEL TO THE DEPT 1596

EXDIS

SANTO DOMINGO FOR BUNKER

1. SINCE OBTAINING APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT CASTELLO BRANCO ON SHORT NOTICE VERY DIFFICULT, I SAW ACTING FONMIN AT 1630 LOCAL TODAY HOUR AFTER RECEIPT REFTEL. DURING INTERVIEW HE CALLED IN VASCONCELLOS, ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL FONOFF.

2. AFTER BRIEFING ACTING FONMIN AND VASCONCELLOS ON BASIS SANTO DOMINGO TELS TO RIO 278 THROUGH 284 I TOLD THEM BUNKER HAD SENT THROUGH DEPT SEPARATE URGENT MESSAGE UNDERLINING

PAGE TWO RUESUA 148 ~~SECRET~~

CRITICAL NATURE PRESENT SITUATION AND STATING HIS BELIEF OAS AD HOC COMMITTEE AND IAPF SHOULD GIVE FULL AND IMMEDIATE SUPPORT TO GARCIA-GODOY AND PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT IN CARRYING OUT DECREES ASSIGNING REGULAR AND CONSTITUTIONALIST MILITARY OFFICERS ABROAD AND OTHER MEASURES DESIGNED MAINTAIN PG AUTHORITY. I ADDED BUNKER ALSO REPORTED PENNA MARINHO CONCERNED OVER SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS SUCH SUPPORT AND UNCERTAIN WHETHER HE HAS NECESSARY AUTHORITY FROM GOB TO TAKE SUCH ACTION. I ADDED ON PERSONAL BASIS IT SEEMED CLEAR FROM COMMUNICATIONS THAT UNLESS AUTHORITY OF PG ASSERTED, SITUATION BOUND TO DETERIORATE PROBABLY IN DIRECTION OF MILITARY DICTATORSHIP WHICH MIGHT PROVIDE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNISTS.

3. VASCONCELLOS AND TO LESSER EXTENT ACTING FONMIN EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER POSSIBILITY THAT, EVEN WITH AD HOC COMMITTEE AND IAPF BACKING, GARCIA-GODOY MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO RECAPTURE POLITICAL SUPPORT FROM ANY OF DOMINICAN FACTIONS AND THAT IN THIS

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-2- 1574, JANUARY 7, FROM RIO DE JANEIRO.

CONTINGENCY IAPF MIGHT BE CONFRONTED WITH ANOTHER SITUATION REQUIRING IMPOSITION FULL MILITARY CONTROL. VASCONCELLOS WONDERED WHETHER OAS AND IAPF WERE PREPARED BOTH PSYCHOLOGICALLY AND MILITARILY TO MEET SUCH A CONTINGENCY. BOTH AGREED THAT IN PRINCIPLE OAS SHOULD STAND BEHIND GARCIA-GODOY AND THAT

PAGE THREE RUESUA 148 ~~SECRET~~

LATTER REPRESENTED ONLY PRESENT CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP CAPABLE HOLDING COUNTRY TOGETHER. VASCONCELLOS ADDED THAT SIMILARLY IAPF REPRESENTED ONLY EFFECTIVE POWER ELEMENT CAPABLE MAINTAINING ORDER DURING PRESENT PERIOD.

4. ACTING FONMIN AGREED CONVEY BUNKER MESSAGE URGENTLY TO PRESIDENT AND PROMISED TO ADVISE ME IMMEDIATELY AFTER HE HAD TALKED TO PRESIDENT WHAT INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE SENT TO PENNA MARINHO. IMPLICATION HE LEFT WITH ME WAS THAT HE WOULD RECOMMEND PENNA MARINHO BE INSTRUCTED GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO GARCIA-GODOY.  
RAINE  
BT

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O 1/7/66, 4:22 P.M.

PASSED WHITE HOUSE 1/7/66, 4:40 P.M.

PASSED DOD, CIA 1/7/66, 4:47 P.M. PER S/S, MR. READ: CWO, JRL.

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