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March 7, 1968

The Honorable Dean Rusk
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary,

MM
I saw in the New York Times ^{N.Y.} of Wednesday, March 6,
that our Ambassador in Brazil, John W. Tuthill, was criticized
in the newspaper O Globo for attending a luncheon for
Carlos Lacerda, at which the former president Juscelino
Kubitschek was present. The thrust of the editorial was
that no Ambassador should meet with the opponents of an
existing government, however informally.

The purpose of this letter is to voice my strong support
for Ambassador Tuthill's conduct as our principal envoy.
With Senator Joseph Montoya, I recently spent some seven
days in Brazil. Both Senator Montoya and I met with
Carlos Lacerda and found the session extremely informative
and useful. Without question, in my judgment, the meeting
of Ambassador Tuthill with Lacerda will strengthen the
ties of friendship between the people of Brazil and the
United States despite the immediate criticism made of the
government. I might add further that I was extremely
impressed with the entire organization of the United States
country team under Ambassador Tuthill. I thought it was
the most outstanding of the four U.S. diplomatic missions
I visited in Latin America.

Sincerely,

Joseph D. Tydings
X

Copy to:
The President
The Honorable John W. Tuthill
The Honorable Joseph Montoya

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