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May 12, 1964 *Bundy*

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

The President concurs with your opinion and has requested that you inform the Government of Brazil that the appointment of General Juracy Montenegro Magalhaes as Ambassador would be agreeable to the Government of the United States.

McGeorge Bundy

cc: Office of the Chief of Protocol



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

May 11, 1964

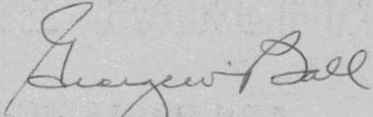
SECRET ENCLOSURE

Dear Mr. President:

The Department has received a communication from the Brazilian Embassy in Washington asking if this Government agrees to the appointment of General Juracy Montenegro Magalhães as Brazilian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States. A biographic sketch of General Juracy Montenegro Magalhães is enclosed.

I believe that the appointment of General Juracy Montenegro Magalhães as Brazilian Ambassador at Washington would be satisfactory and, if you concur in this opinion, I shall be pleased to inform the Brazilian Government of your approval.

Faithfully yours,


Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

Biographic Sketch.

The President,

The White House.

SECRET ENCLOSURE

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Juracy Montenegro Magalhães (Retired General)
The Brazilian Ambassador-Designate to the United States

Juracy Magalhães has been a prominent Brazilian political figure for 34 years--during which time, he has thrice been Governor of Bahia, twice a Federal Deputy, once a Federal Senator and also served as National Chairman of his political party, the National Democratic Union.

Now approaching 60, Ambassador Magalhães was a 26-year old Army Captain in 1931 when Getulio Vargas appointed him interventor (Governor) of the State of Bahia. Ambassador Magalhães was typical of the young officers who supported Vargas' revolution of 1930, hoping for a change from inefficient politics and corrupt politicians. Ambassador Magalhães retired from the army and presently is a reserve general. He was elected Governor of Bahia in 1935, after the democratic process was restored, and served until 1937, when he broke with Vargas over the issue of the latter's establishment of the "Estado Novo" (Vargas' dictatorship which lasted until 1945).

Ambassador Magalhães founded and was President of the National Democratic Union in Bahia and was co-founder of the party on the national level. Elected Deputy from Bahia to the National Constituent Assembly in November 1945, he remained as a member of the Chamber of Deputies when the assembly evolved into the National Congress in 1946. Ambassador Magalhães campaigned unsuccessfully for the governorship of Bahia in 1950, but Vargas, as popularly-elected President, appointed him president of the Companhia Vale do Rio Doce S.A. (a Government-controlled firm that mines and exports iron ore). He served as Military Attaché at the Brazilian Embassy in Washington from early 1953 until March 1954, returning to Brazil to direct the newly-formed Brazilian oil monopoly PETROBRAS. Ambassador Magalhães resigned after a few months and waged a successful campaign for the Federal Senate. In the Senate, he headed the ala realista (moderate wing) of the National Democratic

Union which

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Union which sought to put the national welfare above partisan politics. As National Chairman of the National Democratic Union in 1957, he was mainly responsible for the party's tardy recognition of the "legality" of the administration of President Juscelino Kubitschek and for the party's policy of cooperating with the administration on issues of national interest. After becoming Governor of Bahia in 1959, Ambassador Magalhães campaigned for the National Democratic Union presidential nomination but was defeated by Janio Quadros.

Ambassador Magalhães' views may be described, briefly, as pro-United States, anti-Castro, anti-Communist and generally favorable to free enterprise. Politically, he is a moderate. Brazilians generally hold him in high repute, having found him to be honest in public office, skillful in the practice of the difficult game of Brazilian politics and a public administrator of no mean talents.

Ambassador Magalhães is well-suited for the Ambassadorship. Both his political and military background indicate that he will have the full confidence of the new Brazilian Government.

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