



S/S 17156

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

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October 17, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. McGEORGE BUNDY
THE WHITE HOUSE

FILE

Subject: The Brazilian Elections of October 7, 1962

With my memorandum of October 5, 1962, I forwarded a background paper on the Brazilian elections which we believed would be of interest to the President. The enclosed report on the outcome of the elections has been prepared on the basis of the partial returns received thus far from our Embassy in Rio de Janeiro.

John H. Brubeck
William H. Brubeck
Executive Secretary

Enclosure:

Results of Brazilian Elections.

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Results of Brazilian Elections

On October 7, 1962, a record number of Brazilian voters (estimated at 15 million) participated in elections for congressional, state and municipal offices. Counting is still far from complete and the outcome of several close races for key Governorships is still in doubt. Although the bulk of the vote counting will be completed in another week, several court contests are in prospect and elections may be rerun in specific electoral districts.

Although the vote tabulations are partial, and inconclusive on specific races, they are enough to confirm the prediction that no substantial change in the balance of party holdings in Congress (PSD, 33%; UDN, 21%; PTB, 20%; other 26%) would result and that its political orientation would remain predominantly centrist-conservative.

In the Senate and Chamber contests it does not appear that President Goulart's left-of-center Brazilian Labor Party (PTB), will make substantial overall gains.

In Guanabara (the city of Rio) the leftist-ultranationalist Brizola, former Governor of Rio Grande do Sul, is obtaining a record vote for an individual candidate for the Chamber but the strongest anti-Communist candidate is also polling an unusually heavy vote. PTB gains in Guanabara and in the neighboring state of Rio de Janeiro, appear to be offset by losses to the Conservative (reformist), National Democratic Union (UDN) and Conservative Social Democratic Party (PSD) in other states.

In important gubernatorial and vice-gubernatorial races, PTB and leftist candidates are having mixed success. In the industrial state of Sao Paulo Janio Quadros, attempting a comeback with a generally leftist line, has been beaten for the governorship by conservative Adhemar de Barros. It also appears that Michaelson, the PTB candidate to succeed Brizola as Governor of Rio Grande do Sul, is losing to Meneghetti, the candidate of a center-conservative coalition. One important PTB gain is the victory of its candidate Eloi Dutra for the Vice Governorship of Guanabara.

In the Northeast a leftist candidate has apparently been defeated in Ceara, but extremely close races are in progress in Sergipe, Bahia and Pernambuco. In the latter key state, although Communist-lining Miguel Arraes is trailing by some 10,000 votes, the outcome is still uncertain.

Department of State
October 15, 1962

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