CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
MESSAGE CENTER

VZCZCJCS208 RR RUENJEA DE RUESUA 045 0141515 ZNY CCCCC R 141500Z JAN 69 FM USDAO/RIO DE JANEIRO TO RUEOJFA/DIA WASHDC INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC RUESVB/USCINCSO (J-2) RUFADWD/OACSI DEPTAR RULPAK/USARSO (G=2) RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA RUESUP/AMCONGEN SAO PAULO RUESEI/AMCONSUL RECIFE ZEN/AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE BT

32485

SEC 1 2 & 3 OF 3

1 5 JAN 1969

P. 0.

14all

CONFIDENTIAL 047 SECTION ONE OF THREE FM ARMA JAN 69 1. (C) THE PRESSURES WHICH EXPLODED ON 13 DEC 68 IN THE FORM OF INSTITUTIONAL ACT NO. 5 (14-5) REFLECTED SOME ESTABLISHED HIGH-LEVEL ALIGNMENTS WITHIN THE ARMY. MOREOVER, NEW ALIGNMENTS WERE FORGED. SOME OF THESE MAY HAVE BEEN OF A TEMPORARY NATURE AND THE RESULT OF THE EMOTIONAL MOTIVATIONS OF THE MOMENT: OTHERS COULD RE MORE SUBSTATINVE, BOTH IN DURATION AND PURPOSE. THIS MESSAGE SEEKS TO IDENTIFY THESE ALIGHMENTS AND IS THE RESULT OF INFORMATION GATHERED ON A CONTINUING BASIS FROM RELIABLE SOURCES WHO HAVE ACCESS TO OR ARE THEMSELVES PARTICIPANTS IN THE SHIFTING CURRENTS OF PERSONAL LOYALTIES, 2. (C) IT IS STILL NOT CLEAR WHETHER PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA "DECIDED" TO IMPOSE 14-5 OR HAD THE DECISION IMPOSED UPON HIM. WHATEVER THE TRUTH, THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT MOST ARMY OFFICERS APPEAR TO BELIEVE THAT THE PRESIDENT'S HAND WAS FORCED. SOME EVEN CLAIM THAT THE ARMY HIGH COMMAND DECIDED ON THE NIGHT OF 12 DECEMBER THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE DEPOSED (NO SUCCESSOR INDICATED) UNLESS HE TOOK DRAMATIC MEA URES BY NOON ON THE 13TH. PERHAPS THE BEST WAY TO ANYLYTE THE SITUATION THAT EXISTED ON 12-13 DECEMBER IS TO IDENTIFY THE POSITION OF THE KEY 4-STAR GENERALS DURING THOSE EVENTFUL HOURS:

A. ARMY MINISTER LYRA TAVARES! HE REPORTED TO THE PRESIDENT ON THE SERIOUSNESS OF ARMY PRESSURES RETWEEN

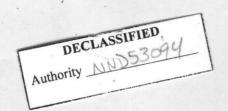
ACTION: DIA-15

INFO: NSA-2 CIA-4 CNO-2 CSAF-1 CMC-7 FILE-1(32) WGS/JEM

PAGE 1 OF 10

Declaratified Per E.O. 12958
Defense Intelligence Agency

By Date 2254 69
NOT Reviewed for Public Release



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
MESSAGE CENTER

1730 AND 1900 ON 12 DECEMBER AND CAME AWAY CONVINCED THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD KEEP PGOMISE TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION THE FOLLOWING DAY. GENERAL LYRA SO INFORMED THE SCORES OF EXCITED OFFICERS WHO SOUGHT HIM IN HIS OFFICE BETWEEN 1900 ON THE 12TH AND 0230 ON THE 13TH. TO ALL TALK OF THE ARMED FORCES TAKING MATTERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS WITH OR WITHOUT COSTA E SILVA-GEN. LYRA TAVARES STEADFASTLY SUPPORTED THE PRESIDENT AND OPENLY STATED THAT HIS COLLEAGUES WOULD HAVE TO GET A NEW ARMY MINISTER AS WELL AS A NEW PRESIDENT, SINCE HE WAS A LOYAL MEMBER OF THE GOVERNMENT.

B. ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF ADALBERTO PEREIRA DOS SANTOS:
WAS NOT CONSULTED BY ANYONE AND DID NOT TAKE ANY
MEANINGFUL INITATIVE. GENERALLY, IT WAS ASSUMED THAT
HE WAS IN FAVOR OF THE PRESIDENT, BUT HE LACKED EITHER
THE PRESTIGE OR THE FOLLOWING TO PLAY A DECISIVE ROLE.

THE PRESTIGE OR THE FOLLOWING TO PLAY A DECISIVE ROLE.

C. GEN. ORIAND GEISFL: CHIFF OF ARMED FORCES STAFF:

WHILE NOT OCCUPAYING AN ARMY BILLET AND THUS NOT LEGALLY

A MEMBER OF THE ARMY HIGH COMMAND. HE IS, NEVERTHELESS.

THE SECOND SENIOR ACTIVE DUTY GENERAL WHOSE VIEWS ARE

SOUGHT AND RESPECTED. HE GENERALLY FAVORED A HARDEN
ING BY THE GOVERNMENT AND SOUGHT OUT THE PRESIDENT

(THE FIRST TIME HE HAD GONE TO COSTA E SILVA WITHOUT

A SPECIFIC SUMMONS) TO IMPRESS UPON HIM THE SERIOUSNESS

OF THE SITUATION. GEISFL PLAYED HIS ROME WITH THE

EXTREME PROPRIETY FOR WHICH HE IS NOTORIOUS, THUS, HE

FAILED TO CALL ON THE JUNION GEN. SYSENO SARMENTO TO

MORTGAGE HIS SUPPORT. MOREOVER, HE HARBORED RESERVATIONS

OVER PLACING SO MUGH POWER IN COSTA E SILVA'S HANDS.

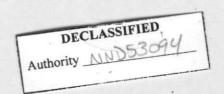
D. GEN. AUGUSTO FRAGOSO. COMDT. OF SUPERIOS WAR SCHOOL:
ANOTHER 4-STAR GENERAL WHO DOES NOT BELONG
TO THE HIGH COMMAND BECAUSE HE OCCUPIES A TRI-SERVICE
BILLET. MOREOVER, HE IS NOT TOO POPULAR OR INFLHENTIAL
AMONG HIS COLIEAGUES. IN THIS SITUATION, HOWEVER, HE
CAME FORTH TO LYRA TAVARES AND PLEDGED SUPPORT FOR THE
MINISTER.

F. GEN. SOUZA WGUIAR. CHIEF OF SUPPLY: EXPRESSED HIS FULL SUPPORT FOR "LEGALITY" - MEANING THE PRESIENT AND LYRA TAVARES.

F. GEN. ALVARO ALVES DA SÍI VA BRAGAR 3RD ARMY CG:
REPORTEDLY REMAINED FULLY RESPONSIVE TO ARMY MINISTER'S
DIRECTIVES AND KEPT TIGHT CONTROL OVER HIS PERSONNEL

PAGE 2 OF 10

32485



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NATIONAL MIRITARY COMMAND CENTER MESSAGE CENTER

TO ADID EXCESSES.
G. GEN. JURANDYR DE RIZARRIA MAMEDE. CHIEF OF WORKS AND PRODUCTION: THE ONCE RESPECTED AND POLITICALLY INVOLVED MAMEDE IS TIRED AND SEEMINGLY DIVOCED FROM THE MAINSTREAM -- THROUGH SOME CONTEND HE IS LAYING IOW WAITING FOR AN APPROPRIATE MOMENT. AT ANY RATE. ON THIS OCCASION, HE MERELY NODDED SLEEPILY.

H. GEN. ANTONIO CARLOS DA SILVA (MUBICY, CHIEF OF PESONNELL GEN. MURICY WAS ONE OF THE KEY RALANCE WHEELS IN THE CRISIS AND APPARENTLY THE MAN WHO DID THE MOST TO SUSTAIN LYRA TAVARES! AUTHORITY. THOSE CLOSE TO GEN. LYRA SAY THAT HE ASSIGNED MURICY THE PRINCIPAL TASK OF STAYING GLUED TO 1ST ARMY CG SYSEND SARMENTO TO RESTRAIN HIM IN THE EVENT HE SHOLD DECIDE UPON SOME RADICAL COURSE OF ACTION. MURICY WAS EMINENTLY SUCCESSFUL IN DOING THAT AND IN ALLOWING HIMSELF TO SERVE AS AN ESCAPE VALVE FOR HOTHEADS WHO

ESPOUSED RADICAL COKSES OF ACTION.

I. GEN. SYSENO SARMENTO. CG. 1ST ARMY: HE RETURNED TO RIO AT 2000 ON THE NIGHT OF THE 12TH FROM A WEEK-LONG INSPECTION TRIP IN BRASILIA AND GOIAS. HIS HARD-LINING AND AMBITIOUS STAFF STAGED AN IMPRESSIVE 100-OFFICER GREETING PARTY AT THE AIRPORT TO IMPRESS UPON HIM THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION. THIS WAS FOLLOWED WITH THE PRESENCE OF THIRTY GENERAL OFFICERS AT HIS ARMY MINISTRY HOS. AND A NON-STOP INSISTENCE ON ACTION. SYSENO RESPONDED BY GOING TO LYRA TAVARES WHO TOLD HIM THAT HE WAS SATISFIED THE PRESIDENT WOULD DO THE RIGHT THING ON THE FOLLOWING DAY. SYSENO INDICATED THAT HE WAS UNDER PRESSURE TO GET SOMETHING DONE THAT NIGHT. LYRA AUTHORIZED HI TO GO TO THE PRESIDENT-WITH THE NEAR CERTAINTY THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD NOT RECEIVE SYSENO. THEREBY DEFLATING HIS PRESTIGE WITHIN THE ARMY. THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT HAPPENED. THE MAJOR COMPOSER OF SYSENO'S SUDFEM PRODINENCE WAS HIS CHIEF OF STAFF, BG HENRIQUE CARLOS DE ASSUMPCAO SARDOSCI. IT IS PROBABLY FAIR TO SAY THAT SYSENO WAS THE PRINCIPAL 4-STAR INSTRUMENT OF PRESSURE UPON THE PRESIDENT.

J. GEN. ALFREDO SOUTO MALAN, CG IV ARMY! AN INTELLIGENT AND LOYAL MAN WHO RESPONDS TO THE HIERARCHICAL PROCESS AND THUS KEPT A FIRM LID ON HIS AREA WHILE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE ARMY

PAGE 3 OF 10

32485

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND5

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
MESSAGE CENTER

MINISTER.

K. GEN. MANDEL RODRIGUES DE CARVALHO ISBOA...CG.

2ND ARMY: LISROA IS RLINDLY LOYAL TO THE PRESIDENT

AND GEN. PORTELIA, BUT HE PROVED AN INEFFECTIVE COMMANDER SINCE HE COULD NOT EVEN RE LOCATED ON THE NIGHT

OF THE 12TH. SOME OFFICERS IN OUTLYING AREAS--SANTOS.

FOP INSTANCE--TOOK MATTERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS IN

THE ABSENCE OF CENTRAL GUIDANCE FROM 2ND ARMY HOS.

DESPITE THE CONFUSION AT LISBOA'S HEADQUARTERS, MAJOR
UNIT COMMANDERS ARE IDENTIFIED WITH THE PRESIDENT AND

REMAINED LOYAL ON THE ASSUMPTION A REAL CRACKDOWN WAS

FORTHCOMING.

3. (C) IN THE IMPORANT 4#STAR AREA, THE PRESIDENT APPEARS TO HAVE ENJOYED THE SUPPORT OF ALL OF THE ARMY'S TOP GENERALS EXCEPT GEN. SYSENO SARMENTO, THE LATTER IS BELIEVED FUNDAMENTALLY 10YAL TO THE PRESIDENT BUT APPARENTLY SUCCUMBED -- AT 1 EAST TEMPORARITY -- TO THE HEADY VAPORS FED HIM BY THE FOLLOWING GENERALS -- EACH FOR HIS OWN REASONS!

A. MG AUGUSTO CEZAR DE CASTRO MONIZ DE ABAGAO.
CHIEF OF REMOUNT AND VETERINARY: THIS FINE OLD
SOLDIER WITH A STERLING PROFESSIONAL REPUTATION
APPARENTLY IS IN THE THROES OF ADVANCED ARTERIOSCIEROSIS
AND HIS ALREADY NOTORIOUSLY SHORT POLITICAL FUZE IS
EVEN SHORTER. HE WAS ONE OF THE MOST EXCITED AROUND
SYSENO AND URGED VIGOROUS AND IMMEDIATE ACTION—TO
INCLUDE DEPOSING THE PRESIDENT.

R. MG AFFONSO AUGUSTO DE ALBUQUERQUE/LIMA, MINISTER DE THE INTERIOS: THERE ARE STRONG INDICATIONS THAT GEN. ALBUQUERQUE LIMA AND SYSENO HAVE BEEN CARRYING ON A CONSPIRATORIAL ROMANCE FOR QUITE SOME TIME. WITH SAO PAULO AS THE FOCAL POINT, ALBUQUERQUE LIMA WAS IN THE FOREFRONT IN AGITATING YOUNG OFFICERS DURING THE WEEKE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING IA-5 AND IT IS RELIEVED THAT HE CONSIDERED HIMSELF A FEASTBLE ALTERNATIVE FOR COSTA E SILVA IN THE EVENT THE NIGHT OF 12-13 DECEMBER HAD PRODUCED THE REMOVAL OF THE PRESIDENT. IN SUCH A SITATION, SYSENO UNDOUBTELY WOULD HAVE EMERGED

RT NNNN

PAGE 4 OF 10

32485

CONFIDENTIAL

A. GEN SYSENDE AT THE FARLIEST OPPORTUNITY HE WILL PROBABLY BE REMOVED FROM CAMMAND OF THE 1ST ARMY. SOME PREISENTIAL ADVISERS WATH THE PRESIDENT TO ACT IMMEDIATELY-" ARGELY TO SACK THE DANGEROUS HENDIQUE

Bray J 32 185

CARDOS IN THE BARGAIN--BUY OTHERS PREFER TO GIVE

GEN SYSENO A RIT MORE PROPE. II

B. MINISTER ALBUQUERQUE LIMA: HE MUST FITHER

RETIRE OR REVERT TO ACTIVE DUTY BY 15 MARCH AND THE

FEELING IS THAT HE WILL REVERT. REVERT. THUS. HE WILL COME

UNDER THE FULL CONTROL OF THE PRESIDENT AND ARMY

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER

MESSAGE CENTER

- 10 kg

Jan Outra la

MINISTÉR WHO WILL EXERCISE GREAT CARE IN HIS ASSIGN-MENTS AS WELL AS IN THE PERMISSIBLE LATITUDE HE CAN

ENJOY IN POLITICAL STATEMENTS.

C. MG ARAGAO: HE WAS NE OF THE LEADING CONTENDERS FOR A FOURTH STAR PRIOR TO HIS ACTIONS ON THE NIGHT OF THE 12T IT NOW APPEARS THAT HE WILL BE PASSED OVER AND ALLOWED TO FADE FROM THE SCENE.

D. MG CASTILHO: HIS RECENT ACTIONS ARE REGARDED WITH A CERTAIN TOLERANCE, PARTICULARULY SINCE HE IS AN STEEMED PROFESSIONAL WHO IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO THE DISCIPLINARY FOLD, CASTILHO NOW KNOWS THAT HIS PROMOTION POTENTIAL IS DIRECTLY PEGGED TO FUTURE GOOD BEHAVIOR. HE PROBABLY WILL NOT BE REMOVED FROM COMMAND OF THE VILA MILLIVAR AND FIRST INF. DIV.

F. BG RAMIRO: HE HAS JUST ABOUT COMPLETED A NORMAL

TOUR AS CG OF THE ARMORED DIV. AND CAN EXPECT FARLY RELIEF. THERE IS EVEN TALK THAT HIS REPLACEMENT WILL RE GEN. TASSO VILLAR DE ADUIND. A RELIABLE LYRA TAVARES

F. GEN JOSE PINTO: HIS REASSIGNMENT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED AND HE WILL GO TO THE STATE OF PARANA AS CG OF 5TH DIVISION ARTILLERY. HIS REPLACEMENT AT THE OFFICERS' ADVANCED SCHOOL IS SOLID LYRA TAVARES MAN. GEN OLAVO VIANNA MOOG.

G. RG CARLOS ALBERTO: HE COULD BE MUVED BUT MIGHT JUST AS EASILY STAY ON SINCE HE IS GENERALLY RE-

SPONSIVE TO THE PRESIDENT, AND PARTICULARLY TO GEN PORTEULA, CHIEF OF THE PRESIENT'S MILITARY HOUSEHOLD.

H. GEN MONTAGNA! SAFELY BACK AS CG OF COAST ARTILLERY NOW THAT GEN FROTAW-A LYRA TAVARES MAN-WHAS TAKEN OVER AS CG OF THE FIRST REGION.

1. GEN CALDERARI: HAS REFN BROUGHT IN BY GE

LYRA AS CHIEF OF HIS PERSO AL STAFF WHERE HE WILL BE UNDER CLOSE SCRUTINY AND VERY BUSY, HIS SUCCESSOR AT THE FIRST BRIGADE IS EXPECTED TO BE LYRA TAVARES MAN GEN. ARGUS LIMA. RT NNNN

PAGE 8 OF 10

32485

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND53 ...

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER

MESSAGE CENTER

DIVISION: THE INTELLIGNENT BUT EXTREMELY VAIN AND AMBITIOUS GEN. RAMIRO CHARGED AROUND ON THE NIGHT OF THE 12TH-13TH WITH FIRE IN HIS EYES. DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE SERVED ON COSTA F SILVA'S STAFF FOR MANY YEARS AND OWES HIS PROMOTIONS AND CURRENT KEY. POWER ASSIGNMENT TO THE PREUPOENT. RAMIRO'S LOYALTY TO THE PRESIDENT ON THAT FATEFUL NIGHT IS OPEN TO SERIOUS DOURT.

F. BG HENRIQUE CARLOS DE ASSUMPCAO CAPDOSO.

SYSENO'S CHIEF OF STAFF: GEN. HENRIQUE CARDOSO HAS
BEEN MANIPULATING GEN. SYSENO FOR A GOOD MANY YEARS.
HE IS BRIHT AND AMBITIOUS AND HE APPEARS SINCERE IN
HIS DESIRE TO PUSH SYSENO ALL THE WAY TO THE PRESIDENCY. NATURALLY, HENRIQUE CARDOSO WOULD DERIVE SOME
BENEFITS FROM THAT UNLIKELY OCCURRENCE. HENRIQUE
CARDOSO'S HOLD ON SYSENO IS SO NOTIRIOUS THAT
PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA REPORTEDLY CALLED IN SYSENO
ABOUT TEN DAYS AFTER THE ISSUANCE OF IA-5 AND ASKED
HIM: "DO YOU THINK YOU WILL EVER BE ABLE TO COMMAND
ON YOUR OWN WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF HENRIQUE CARDOSO'S
ORIENTATION " THE IRONY OF HENRIQUE CARDOSO'S
ORIENTATION IS THAT HIS CAREER WAS SAVED FROM THE JUNK
PILE UNDER GOULART THROUGH THE INTERVENTION OF THEN

F. BG JOSE PINTO DE ARAUJO RABELLO, COMOT. OF
OFFICERS' ADVANCED SCHOOL: GEN JOSE PINTO REVEALED
HIS UNEASINESS IN OCTOBER WHEN HE SANCTIONED A "CAPTAINS
MANIFESTO" BY STUDENT OFFICERS AT HIS SCHOOL. HE IS
AN INTELLIGENT AND RESPECTED OFFICER, BUT HE ALLOWED
HIMSELF TO BE CARRIED AWAY BY THE REAL AND IMAGINED GRIEVANCES OF JUNIOR OFFICERS. IT IS BELIEVED THAT

JOSE PINTO ACTED FROM CONVICTION RATHER THAN AMRITION.

G. BG CARLOS ALBERTO CABRAI RIREIRO CG 2ND INF
BRIGADE, NITEROI: THE HARD-LINING GEN. CARLOS ALBERTO
IS REGARDED AS A COSTA E SILVA MAN. BUT IN THE RECENT
SITUATION HE SIDED WITH GEN. CASTILHO AND THROUGH HIM
WITH GEN. SYSENO. HE WAS ONE OF THE "TIGERS" WHO HAD
TO BE CONTAINED SINCE HE WANTED TO TAKE OVER THE STATE
OF RIO DE JANFIRO AND PURGE EVERY POLITICIAN SUSPECTED
OF CORRUPTION OR SUBVERSION.

H. RG CESAR MONTAGNA DE SOUZA: ACTG. CG. 1ST MIL.
REGION: THE VERY HARD-LINING MONTAGNA FOUND HIMSELF
IN THE 1ST REGION BILLET AS THE HEAT GENERATED DURING

32485

PAGE 6 OF 10

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND53094

ONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER MESSAGE CENTER

SYSENO'S ABSENCE ON THE INSPECTION TRIP. HE WAS SWEPT ALONG BY THE EUPHRIA OF THE MOMENT, EVEN THOUGH

HE NORMALLY SUBORNIDANTES HIS NATURAL IMPETUOSITY TO THE MODERATE INFLUENCES OF ARMY MINISTER LYRA TAVARES.

I. RG ARNAIDO JOSE LUIZ CAIDERARI, CG 1ST INF.

BRIGADE: GEN. CALDERARI'S EMERGENCE AT SYSENO'S SIDE WAS STARTLING IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HE SERVED COSTA E SILVA AS CHIEF OF THE BRASILIA ADVANCED ECHFLON WHEN THE PRESIDENT WAS WAR MINISTER AND AS SUB-CHIEF OF THE PRESIDENT'S MILITARY HOUSEHOID. MORFOVER, THE PRESIDENT ENRUSTED HIM WITH THE KEY 1ST BRIGADE WHICH INCLUDES THE "CUTTING EDGE" MAP. SUPPORTED UNITS. IT COULD BE THAT CALDERARI LATCHED ON TO SYSENO IN AN ATTEMPT TO DISSUADE HIM FROM RASH ACTION AGAINST COSTA E SILVA, BUT MY OWN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH CALDERARI HAVE SHOWN HIM TO RE VERY DISAPPOINTED WITH THE PRESIDENT'S "SOFTNESS." 4. (C) SINCE NEITHER THE PRESIDENT NOR LYRA TAVARES APPEAR IN ANY MOOD TO HAND OVER CONTROL OF BRAZILIS DESTINETES TO GEN SYSENO AND THOSE AROUND HIM, AND SINCE BOTH REALIZE THE NARROW MARGIN BY WHICH THE HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE PREVAILED ON 12-13 DECEMBER, IT FOLLOWS THAT THEY WILL TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS TO SHORE UP THE POSITION ON CENTRAL AUTHORITY. IN THE PROCESS, THEY WILL SAFEGUARD AGAINST LIKELY CONTINUED CONSPIRATORIAL ACTIVIES BY TOSE WHO ARE UNHAPPY WITH THEIR PERSONAL STATUS AS A RESULT OF IA-5. THE FIRST STEP IN THE PROCESS OF CONSOLIDATION OF PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN WITH THE RETENTION OF I YRA TAVARES AS ARMY MINISTER FOLLOWING HIS STATUTORY RETIREMENT FROM ACTIVE SERVICE ON 31 DECEMBER. OTHER MEASURES, "HAD ASSURED CASTILHO THAT

RETTRE FOR AGE IN JUNE, 1970 UNLESS PROMOTED TO 4 STARS, AND CHANCES ARE EXTREMELY SLIM THAT HE WILL PROMOTED UNDER ROUTINE CIRCUMSTANCES. THUS. HAD HE GENERATED COSTA E SILVA'S OVERTHROW, HIS DETRACTORS BELIEVE HE WOULD HAVE SOLVED HIS OWN TENHER PROBLEM

D. BG RAMIRO TAVARES CONCALVES, CG OF THE ARMORED

PAGE 5 OF 10

32485

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED Authority NND53096 CONFIDENTIAL -

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
MESSAGE CENTER

SEC 2 OF 3

3 2 4 8 5

VZCZCJCS283 RR RUEOJFA DE RUFSUA 045/2 0141515 ZNY CCCCC . R 141500Z JAN 69 FM USDAO/RIO DE JANEIRO TO RUEDJFA/DIA WASHDC INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDO RUESVB/USCINCSO (J-2) RUEADWD/OACSI DEPTAR RULPAK/USARSO (G=2) RUFSUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA RUESUP/AMCONGEN SAO PAULO RUFSEI/AMCONSUL RECIFE ZENIAMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE BT

Simil Po Fell

CONFIDENTIA DE CASTILHO, CG OF THE 1ST AINF

DIV AND VILA MILITARE OUTSTANDING SOLDIER CASTILHO RECAME THE PRINCIPAL LIGHTNING ROD FOR THE TORRENT OF ROLTS GENERATED AT THE VILA MILITAR FOLLOWING THE CONGRESSIONAL VOTE ON THE MARCIO MOREIRA AIVES CASE. CASTILHO IS LOYAL TO LYRA AND TO THE PRESIDENT SINCE HE WAS THEIR CHOICE FOR THE POWERFUL POSITION HE OCH CUPIES: ON THE OTHER HAND, HE ALSO CONCLUDED THAT MANY THINGS WERE WRONG AND CHANGES WERE NEEDED URGENTLY IF THE ARMY WAS TO REMAIN COHESIVE AND STRONG. THUS, HE ASSUMED AN INTRASIGENT AND EXTREMELY HARD POSTURE, EVEN THREATENING TO MARCH WITH HIS MEN INTO DOWNTOWN RIO UNLESS A DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN BY THE PRESIDENT BY NOON ON THE 13TH. ONCE HIGHER AUTHORITY (LYRA, MURICY, AND PROBABLY OTHERS) HAD ASSURED CASTILHO THAT ACTION WAS FORTHCOMING, WE REVERTED TO HIS ROLE AS THE SDISCIPLINED SOLDER. DESPITE THE FOREGOING ASSESSMENT, THERE ARE THOSE WHO BELIEVE THAT CASTILHO ACTED OUT OF PERSONAL AMBITION SINCE HE STANDS TO RETIRE FOR AGE IN JUNE, 1970 UNLESS PROMOTED TO 4 STARS, AND CHANCES ARE EXTREMELY SLIM THAT HE WILL PROMOTED UNDER ROUTINE CIRCUMSTANCES. THUS. HAD HE GENERATED COSTA E SILVA'S OVERTHROW, HIS DETRACTORS BELIEVE HE WOULD HAVE SOLVED HIS OWN TENHER PROBLEM QUITE NICELY.

D. BG RAMIRO TAVARES CONCAIVES, CG OF THE ARMORED

PAGE 5 OF 10

32485

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND53094