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DIVISION: THE INTELLIGENT 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 E SILVA'S STAFF FOR MANY YEARS AND OWES HIS PROMOTIONS AND CURRENT KEY POWER ASSIGNMENT TO THE PRESIDENT. RAMIRO'S LOYALTY TO THE PRESIDENT ON THAT FATEFUL NIGHT IS OPEN TO SERIOUS DOUBT.

F. BG HENRIQUE CARLOS DE ASSUMPÇÃO CARDOSO, SYSENDO'S CHIEF OF STAFF: GEN. HENRIQUE CARDOSO HAS BEEN MANIPULATING GEN. SYSENDO FOR A GOOD MANY YEARS. HE IS BRIGHT AND AMBITIOUS AND HE APPEARS SINCERE IN HIS DESIRE TO PUSH SYSENDO ALL THE WAY TO THE PRESIDENCY. NATURALLY, HENRIQUE CARDOSO WOULD DERIVE SOME BENEFITS FROM THAT UNLIKELY OCCURRENCE. HENRIQUE CARDOSO'S HOLD ON SYSENDO IS SO NOTIRIOUS THAT PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA REPORTEDLY CALLED IN SYSENDO 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 RECENT AGITATION IS THAT HIS CAREER WAS SAVED FROM THE JUNK PILE UNDER GOULART THROUGH THE INTERVENTION OF THEN GENERAL COSTA E SILVA.

F. BG JOSE PINTO DE ARAUJO RABELLO, COMDT. 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 AMBITION.

G. BG CARLOS ALBERTO CABRAL RIBEIRO, 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. SYSENDO. HE WAS ONE OF THE "TIGERS" WHO HAD TO BE CONTAINED SINCE HE WANTED TO TAKE OVER THE STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO AND PURGE EVERY POLITICIAN SUSPECTED OF CORRUPTION OR SUBVERSION.

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

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SYSENO'S ABSENCE ON THE INSPECTION TRIP. HE WAS SWEEPED ALONG BY THE EUPHORIA OF THE MOMENT, EVEN THOUGH HE NORMALLY SUBORNIDANTES HIS NATURAL IMPETUOSITY TO THE MODERATE INFLUENCES OF ARMY MINISTER LYRA TAVARES.

1. RG ARNALDO JOSE LUIZ CALDERARI, 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 ECHELON WHEN THE PRESIDENT WAS WAR MINISTER AND AS SUB-CHIEF OF THE PRESIDENT'S MILITARY HOUSEHOLD.

MORFOVER, THE PRESIDENT ENTRUSTED 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 BE 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 BRAZIL'S DESTINEIES 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 ACTIITIES 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 LYRA TAVARES AS ARMY MINISTER FOLLOWING HIS STATUTORY RETIREMENT FROM ACTIVE SERVICE ON 31 DECEMBER. OTHER MEASURES IN THE OFFING ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. COMING, HE REVERTED TO HIS ROLE AS THE DISCIPLINED SOLDIER. 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 BE PROMOTED UNDER ROUTINE CIRCUMSTANCES. THUS, HAD HE GENERATED COSTA E SILVA'S OVERTHROW, HIS DETRACTORS RELIEVE HE WOULD HAVE SOLVED HIS OWN TENURE PROBLEM QUITE NICELY.

D. RG RAMIRO TAVARES CONCAIVES, CG OF THE ARMORED

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