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ORIGINATOR

USDAO

Rio de Janeiro

Brazil

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3. (U) General Air Command: Major Brigadeiro Manuel Jose VINHAES vacates Commander, Tactical Air Command and assumes position of Commander, General Air Command in place of Lt Gen BELLO.

4. (U) Department of Civil Aviation: Major Brigadeiro Henrique de Castro NEVES moves from Director General of Engineers and Chief of the Nucleus, Support and Infrastructure Command and will serve as interim Director General of Department of Civil Aviation, a spot vacated by retiring Tenente Brigadeiro MARTINHO Candido dos Santos.

5. (U) Chief of Nucleus, Support and Infrastructure Command: Major Brigadeiro Jair Americo dos REIS leaves position as Chief of Technical Sub-Department of Civil Aviation and replaces Major Brigadeiro Castro NEVES.

6. (U) Chief of the Technical Sub-Department of Civil Aviation: Major Brigadeiro Roberto Faria LIMA is relieved as Commander of the Fifth Air Zone and replaces Major General Jair Americo dos REIS.

7. (U) Interim Commander of Fifth Air Zone: Brigadeiro Leonardo Teixeira COLARES leaves as Commander, Air Cadet Preparatory School and replaces Major Brigadeiro Faria LIMA.

8. (U) Interim Commander, Third Air Zone: Brigadeiro Joao Paulo Moreira BORNIER was Chief of Nucleus of Aeronautical Information ~~Service~~ and now replaces Major Brigadeiro Joao Tavares Bordeauz REGO.

9. (U) Chief of Nucleus, Technical Director of Personnel: Major Brigadeiro Jose Tavares Bordeauz REGO assumes this position after leaving as Commander, Third Air Zone.

10. (U) Sub-Chief for Coordination Air General Staff: Major Brigadeiro JOLEO da Verga Cabral replaces Brigadeiro Edivio Caldas SANTOS in this position. Major Brigadeiro JOLEO was previously Chief of Nucleus, Air Defense Command.

COMMENTS:

(C) Liaison channel indicates SAMPAIO quit for reasons of health but it is also well-known that he had no desire to move to Brasilia. The latter probably had the most effect on his decision to retire.

(C) Major Brigadeiro BORDEAUX and Major Brigadeiro FARIA LIMA appear to have been demoted by losing command of the Air Zones.

(C) Those getting the best of the change are Tenente Brigadeiro MENEZES who also could have been Governor of his home state; Brigadeiro BURNIER and Major Brigadeiro CASTRO NEVES who will probably be promoted to Tenente Brigadeiro later this year.

(C) It was rumored that many FAB officers were displeased with Air Minister Marcio de Souza E MELLO. But in light of the recent changes in FAB high ranking officers, and the fact that he is a friend and a strong supporter of the President, MARCIO appears to be in stronger than ever.

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