

Presumably drafted in May 1952

PTB/6?

(PTB)
 President VARGAS' Partido Trabalhista Brasileiro, during a special National Convention, and acting under the President's direct orders, ~~was~~ unanimously and without a dissenting voice ~~was~~ voted May 20, 1952 to elect João Belchior GOULART ~~President~~ President of the PTB. ~~He~~ Forty year old Goulart is an intimate friend of President Vargas. He was Secretary of Interior of the State of Rio Grande do Sul until he resigned that post to come to Rio de Janeiro at the President's behest about a month ago. Since his arrival in the capital, he has been residing at ~~the~~ Catete, the Presidential Palace. Informed Palace sources told an Embassy officer that the President and Goulart ~~have~~ held long, almost daily conferences on political problems culminating in the President's decision to ~~entrust~~ entrust to Goulart the delicate and difficult task ~~of restoring~~ the badly weakened, faction-riddled PTB into a cohesive, strong political task force ~~to be commanded~~ to be commanded by Vargas through ~~his~~ Goulart, his young confidant.

~~For~~ For months the PTB had been convulsed by a bitter internal struggle between rival aspirants to party leadership and weakened by desertions. Adhemar de BARROS, leader of the ~~PTB's~~ Partido Socialista Popular (PSP), the PTB's principal contender for support of the lower classes, has also been capitalizing on the weakened condition of the PTB to lure local political leaders in all parts of Brazil from the PTB into the PSP.

~~Several~~ Several political leaders and observers of diverse political currents have remarked that ~~President~~ President Vargas intervened at a critical moment, as the ~~convention~~ convention of May 20 might well have result^{ed} in an open ~~split~~ ^{split} division of the party into two cohorts of nominal Party President Danton COELHO and the rival rebellious forces championing Dinarte DORNELLES

It was at a critical point in the party's fortunes that Vargas decided to take decisive ~~fax~~ action and depart, for the first time since his election, from his chosen role of apparent impartial representative in the Palace of the four parties nominally in the Government coalition: the PTB, the Partido Social Democratico (PSD) the PSP and the ~~PSX~~ Partido Social Trabalhista (PST). Although he constantly maneuvered behind the scenes to ~~influence~~ affect the actions of all parties, his efforts were usually directed to ~~driving~~ pitting group against group, then using each faction to his own advantage. ~~Heretofore~~ Heretofore, he had been careful not to play his hand in the open.

Prior to the PTB convention, ^{on May 17,} however, he called in the ~~feuding~~ leaders of the feuding PTB factions and told them in no uncertain terms that their ^{SCRAPPING} fighting must stop, ~~and~~ that neither of their candidates was his choice, and that he expected their votes for Goulart, who would head the party as his representative. Inasmuch as he is the ~~party's~~ ^{party's} main, if not only source of strength of the party, ~~which~~ ~~the~~ ~~leaders~~ ~~felt~~ ~~they~~ ~~had~~ ~~no~~ ~~recourse~~ ~~but~~ ~~to~~ ~~obey~~. Most of them, indeed welcomed Vargas' show of interest in the party. They had blamed its rapid decline on his neglect of the ~~party~~ PTB since his ~~election~~ ~~as~~ ~~President~~ ~~last~~ ~~year~~ inauguration/as President of the Republic. ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~year~~ ~~1951~~

