

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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SOUZA MOTTA, Sylvio Borges de

BRAZIL

Minister of the Navy

Admiral Sylvio Borges de Souza Motta, veteran navy line officer, took office as Minister of the Navy on 18 June 1963. Upon taking up his portfolio, Motta called for creation of a climate in which government can effect the economic recuperation of the country and bring about "necessary reforms within Christian, democratic postulates." He is regarded as friendly toward the United States and is considered a definite improvement over his predecessor, Admiral Pedro Paulo Suzano.

Sylvio Borges de Souza Motta was born on 11 February 1902 in Rio de Janeiro, and entered the Naval Academy in April 1920, graduating in 1924. His 43 years of naval service include extensive sea duty as a navigator and later, during World War II, as commanding officer of escort vessels along the Brazilian coast and as far north as Trinidad. Following the war, Motta held a variety of staff jobs and served as instructor at the Army Staff School, the Naval War College and the National War College. He has since served, inter alia, as commander of the training ship Almirante Saldanha, as staff chief of the High Seas Forces, as chief of the War Minister's cabinet, and, most recently, as president of the Merchant Marine Commission.

Motta has visited the United States on several occasions, and he holds the US Medal of Naval Merit in addition to numerous Brazilian decorations. He is married and is the father of two children. Motta speaks English and French.

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