

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER

MESSAGE CENTER

BRASIL

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

23584
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ACTION DIA(20)

DISTR CJCS DJS SJCS(03) J3(12) J5(02) SAGA(01) SECDEF(07)

ASD:ISA(09) ASD:PA(01) CSAF, CNO, CMC, MCGC, FILE(1)
(056)

ADV ACTION DIA(03)

ADV DISTR SECDEF(05)

TRANSIT/061440Z/061929Z/004:49TOR3101923

DE RUESUA 7989 3101600

ZNY CCCCC

P 061440Z NOV 70

FM USDAO RIO DE JANEIRO

TO RUEKJCS/DIA

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

RUEKJCS/OASD-ISA

RUEKJCS/OJCS

RUESVB/USCINCSO (J-2)

RUEADWD/OACSI, DA

RULPAK/USARSO (G-2)

RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

RUESUP/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

RUESEI/AMCONSUL RECIFE

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L 0854. FM ARMA, NOV 70.

1. (U) INFORMATION IN THIS MESSAGE OBTAINED AT
RESIDENCE OF GEN MURICY, ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF, ON EVENING
5 NOV DURP

NO DINNER IN HONOR OF CG USARSO AND MRS.

CHESTER L. JOHNSON. IMPRESSIVE GUEST LIST INCLUDED:

ARMY MINISTER AND MRS. GEISEL, GENERAL AND MRS. FRAGOSO,
GENERAL AND MRS. MALAN, GENERAL AND MRS. RODRIGO OCTAVIO,
GENERAL AND MRS. ARAGAO, GENERAL AND MRS. SARDENBERG,
GENERAL NAHON, MAJ GEN AND MRS. BINA MACHADO, MAJ GEN
AND MRS. REYNALDO MELLO DE ALMEIDA, MAJ GEN AND MRS.
CORREIA, AND BRIG GENERAL CALDERARI, PAULA COUTO,
AND POTYGUARA.

2. (C) I PROBED SPECIFICALLY IN AREA OF "OPERATION
BIRDCAGE" DRAGNET OF PAST SEVERAL DAYS AND FOUND GENERALS
MURICY, SARDENBERG, REYNALDO, CALDERARI, AND POTYGUARA
EXTREMELY FORTHCOMING AS FOLLOWS:

A. GEN MURICY ACTION WAS DIRECTED FROM BRASILIA

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AND DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE THREE OBJECTIVES : (1) A SHOW OF FORCE IN FACE OF KNOWLEDGE OF EXISTING THREAT TO STABILITY; (2) INTIMIDATION OF THOSE KNOWN TO SYMPATHIZE WITH RADICAL/LIBERAL CAUSES, AND (3) CAPTURE OF TERRORISTS THROUGH RAIDS ON SAFE-HOUSES IDENTIFIED AS A RESULT OF INTERROGATIONS AND INFORMATION FROM LATE CAMARA FERREIRA'S PAPERS. IN THE VIEW OF CHIEF OF STAFF, ABOUT 400 PEOPLE DETAINED NATION-WIDE, WITH 240 IN SAO PAULO AND 76 IN GUANABARA. HE FEELS ARREST OF SUCH INDIVIDUALS AS LAWYER HELENO FRAGOSO UNFORTUNATE AND DEPLORES CERTAIN NEGATIVE FALLOUT ON BRAZIL'S INTERNATIONAL IMAGE. HE DISPLAYED NO RESPECT FOR FRAGOSO AND DESCRIBED HIM AS MONEY-HUNGRY MERCHANT IN WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS RACKET, AND ONE OF FOREMOST DENIGRATORS OF BRAZIL ABROAD. GEN MURICY SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH 1ST ARMY COMMANDER GENERAL SYSENO, SUGGESTING THAT "BIRDCAGE" LIST BE BROKEN DOWN INTO TWO OR MORE. ONE ROSTER WOULD HAVE NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS KNOWN TO BE DANGEROUS AND ACTIVISTS, ANOTHER WOULD LIST POLITICAL ENEMIES SUCH AS HELENO FRAGOSO. IN FUTURE, IMPLEMENTATION ORDERS WOULD SPECIFY LIST TO BE USED.

WHEN I ASKED GEN MURICY IF ROUNDUP FORCED UPON PRESIDENT, HE LAUGHED AND SAID THAT I KNEW MEDICI AND THE CURRENT BRAZILIAN SITUATION WELL ENOUGH TO REALIZE THAT SUCH AN EVENT NOT POSSIBLE. MEDICI IS HIS OWN BOSS, HE SAID, AND NO ONE WOULD DARE TRY TO IMPOSE UPON HIM SOMETHING HE DID NOT DESIRE.

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