

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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1. ON 9 JUNE, THE THREE SENIOR ARMED FORCES COMMANDERS IN SAO PAULO MET WITH SAO PAULO GOVERNOR PAULO EGYDIO MARTINS TO DISCUSS THE 4 JUNE ELECTORAL VICTORY OF PAULO SALIM MALUF. GENERAL DILERMAR M. A. N. D. GOMES COMMANDER OF THE SECOND ARMY, BRIGADIER CLOVIS PAVAN HEAD OF THE FOURTH AIR ZONE IN SAO PAULO, AND REAR ADMIRAL MOZART PADILHA DE SOUZA WERE ALL OPPOSED TO MALUF TAKING OVER THE SAO PAULO GOVERNORSHIP WHEN MARTINS LEAVES OFFICE. PAVAN WAS THE MOST VOCAL IN OPPOSITION TO MALUF, BUT ALL WERE IN A QUANDRY AS TO WHAT ACTION THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE TO BLOCK MALUF FROM TAKING OFFICE. NOTHING WAS DECIDED AT THE MEETING, BUT IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE POINTS OF VIEW EXPRESSED THAT MALUF WILL HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME IN BECOMING THE NEXT GOVERNOR OF SAO PAULO.

2. ALL THREE OF THE MILITARY COMMANDERS WERE OF THE OPINION THAT GENERAL JOAO BAPTISTA DE OLIVERIA FIGUEIREDO IS AN INEPT POLITICIAN AND ILL-SUITED FOR THE PRESIDENCY. DILERMANDO POINTEDLY SAID THAT THE DEFEAT OF LAUDO NATIEL, FIGUEIREDO'S CANDIDATE IN THE GUBERNATORIAL CONTEST, WAS A "MORTAL WOUND" FOR FIGUEIREDO AND THAT IF FIGUEIREDO DOES SUCCEED TO THE PRESIDENCY IN MARCH 1979, HE WILL TAKE OFFICE WITH A "WOODEN LEG." DILERMANDO WAS ESPECIALLY PESSIMISTIC OVER THE FUTURE OF BRAZIL IF FIGUEIREDO BECOMES THE NEXT PRESIDENT.

3. (FIELD COMMENT: THE VIRTUAL UNANIMITY OF OPINION IN SAO PAULO MILITARY AND POLITICAL CIRCLES AGAINST THE CANDIDACY OF MALUF WOULD MAKE IT APPEAR THAT MALUF WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ASSUME THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE. JUST HOW THE GOVERNMENT WILL BLOCK MALUF REMAINS THE KEY QUESTION AS EVIDENCED BY THE MEETING DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH ONE OF THIS REPORT. THE REAL THRUST, HOWEVER, OF THE NATEL DEFEAT CENTERS AROUND DILERMANDO'S COMMENT. DILERMANDO

IS NOT A FIGUEIREDO SUPPORTER, AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO INTERPRET EVENTS IN A MANNER HOSTILE TO FIGUEIREDO. ALSO, SAO PAULO POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERS TEND TO GIVE GREATER IMPORTANCE TO EVENTS IN THAT STATE. NEVERTHELESS, FIGUEIREDO'S CANDIDACY APPEARS TO BE IN TROUBLE AND IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER FIGUEIREDO WILL BE ABLE TO SURMOUNT THESE PROBLEMS AND GOVERN EFFECTIVELY.)

4. ACO3 BRAZIL, SAO PAULO (12 JUNE 1978) FIELD NUMBER:

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