

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
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AmEmbassy Office Brasilia

SUBJECT

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Control: /402 782

Date: April 27, 1967

1400

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC 393

INFO : AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO 436
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 19

BRASILIA 782

SUBJECT: MDB President Reports on Visit with Joao Goulart

1. In speech before Senate April 25, MDB president Senator Oscar Passos described visit with ex-President Goulart and other exiles in Montevideo, and urged "immediate and indispensable discretionary revocation of all laws ~~with exceptions~~ and full amnesty without discrimination."

Ref 12

2. First key point of Passos' speech was vehement denial that he had requested Costa e Silva's permission to visit Goulart. Explained that as matter of courtesy had informed President of intended visit. At this, various MDB Senators interrupted speech to express support for Passos.

3. Of Goulart Passos said he "serene and tranquil, without rancor and had not lost faith. Joao Goulart is good and pure man." Although according Passos he and Goulart discussed Brazilian politics for five hours, Passos did not reveal any details that conversation.

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4. Turning to situation of "three thousand Brazilian exiles" in Uruguay, Passos gave emotional description their situation. "The children are greatest victims of hatred which has fallen on fathers' heads..., innocent sons and daughters, condemned to having no personality or to dying from hunger, because of simple accusation against fathers." Passos said MinJustice's note on possibility return of exiles was "negative and disquieting" since it made exiles subject to laws decreed and courts created after the events for which they would be judged. Warned government against "rancorous laws and violent procedures" pointing out "victors of today may be the vanquished of tomorrow."

5. Comment: Speech primarily a test of Passos' leadership of party in face of internal revolt by wing of young, radical deputies. Thus focused on "family" problem of status of anti-revolutionary exiles rather than report on Punta del Este Summit conference. With announcement that meeting of MDB executive committee postponed to May 10, appears revolt has been at least temporarily defused.

EXEMPT

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