

TELEGRAM

INCOMING

BRASILIA

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

SUBJECT

ACTION
POL-2
INFO
FILES
RF

CO FIDENTIAL

Classification

Control: 1646

Recd: 18MAY67

R 181840Z MAY 67
FM AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE
TO ZEN/AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO 340
RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 14
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 61
STATE GRNC
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L PORTO ALEGRE 419

SUBJ: ARENA-MDB RIFT

1. MONDAY GOVERNOR PERRACHI RECEIVED ARENA STATE DEPUTIES AND THE ARENA LEADERS EFD TOLD THEM HE WOULD "RETURN HIS GOVT TO ITS PARTISAN BASE". SAID HE HAD SOUGHT POLITICAL PACIFICATION OF STATE AND HENCE TRIED REACH UNDERSTANDING WITH MDB, WHICH DID NOT UNDERSTAND GESTURE. ADDED THAT MDB DAMAGING NATIONAL LINE OF OWN PARTY, WHICH IS DIALOG WITH GOVT, BY BECOMING RADICAL. ALSO SAID SPLIT ARENA BETWEEN HIS FOLLOWERS AND TARSO DUTRA LONG SINCE HEALED.

2. IN SHARP REPLY TO PERRACHIS LETTER DECLINING ATTEND PROMULGATION CONSTITUTIONS MDB EMPHASIZED NEW CHARTER ASKED FOR BY ARENA, AND THAT ARENA PARTICIPATED FULLY IN DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURES OF WHICH SIGNING ONLY FINAL ACT. ALSO SAID MDB AMMENDMENTS NOT DESIGNED RESTRICT RIGHTS BUT PROTECT RIGHTS LEGISLATIVE BRANCH FROM ENROACHMENT BY EXECUTIVE. IN EFFECT REPLY ACCUSES ARENA OF SOURGRAPES.

3. COMMENT: RIFT WITH MDB SHOULD STRENGTHEN PERRACHIS HAND WITH RESPECT DISSIDENTS IN ARENA. PARTY UNITY NOW VITAL IF PERRACHI TO GET PROGRAM THROUGH ASSEMBLY. HENCE SIX DAY VISIT TARSO DUTRA TO RGS BEGINNING MAY 20 OF GREAT INTEREST.

HEWITT
BT

Pol 12 ARENA

0845/RM

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Classification

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