

TELEGRAM

OUTGOING

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

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EMBASSY

Date: 2 Dec 64
1055

TO: SECSTATE 94 ROUTINE

INFO: RIO 98 ROUTINE

1. Congress recessed on schedule yesterday and will reconvene on February 3 in special session preliminary to opening next year's regular session on March 1.

2. In closing statement, Chamber President Mazzilli referred to ~~the~~ Institutional Act which made possible the consideration in ~~a~~ short period of matters of ~~the~~ highest importance coming from ~~the~~ Executive power. Other orators referred to the numerous items of congressional business accomplished including ~~the~~ approval (frequently with modifications) of four constitutional amendments and 125 government bills.

3. Referring to role of Congress during difficult period of Institutional Act and cassation of mandates, Mazzilli said main task had been to prevent the disappearance of Congress as an institution which houses controversy and permits free manifestation of thought". He referred to "our contributions" in form of substitute bills and speeches recommending maximum attention to important national problems".

4. Concluding, Mazzilli said, "I am confident that we are returning to political-administrative normalcy. Only through free debate in this house will we maintain integrity of democratic regime which rests on the harmony and independence of powers.---We shall know how to participate in the return of the country to the realm of constitutional normalcy free of the passions

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which generate revolutions and vendettas".

5. At dinner last night, President Mazzilli reiterated to Emboff his belief in the gradual return to normalcy under force of Brazilian public opinion and guidance of President Castello Branco whom he considers moderate and civilista. He was glad to see the end of the Goias case and, although convinced that Governor Borges was no communist, he found him ambitious, stubborn and surrounded by leftist elements. On Governor Lacerda's recent attack on the Supreme Court, President Mazzilli already saw signs of retreat by Lacerda in his willingness to accept Senate decision in this matter. Mazzilli seemed to feel time would cure many Brazil's current problems and given enough rope, Lacerda may well hang himself. GP-3

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