

TELEGRAM

INCOMING

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

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Control:

Recd: NOV 30 1965

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FM AMEMBASSY RIODEJANEIRO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1294

INFO RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 145

RUESUP/AMCONSUL SAOPAULO 77

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UNCLAS NOVEMBER 29

PRESS REACTION TO BOAVENTURA LETTER

1. BOAVENTURA INCIDENT HAS DRAWN EDITORIAL RESPONSE FROM JORNAL DO BRASIL, CORREIO DA MANHA, TRIBUNA DA IMPRENSA, ULTIMA HORA, O GLOBO, AND DIARIO CARIOCA. WITH EXCEPTION OF TRIBUNA, ALL COMMENT HAS BEEN STRONGLY OPPOSED TO "HARD LINE" CHALLENGE TO PRESIDENT AND TO RECRUDESCENCE OF MILITARY INSUBORDINATION WHICH LETTER REPRESENTS.
2. DIARIO CARIOCA TERMED THE LETTER NO LESS THAN A SUBVERSIVE DOCUMENT AND DENIED THAT ANY COLONEL HAS RIGHT TO SPEAK IN NAME OF REVOLUTION AS THIS RIGHT RESERVED FOR PRESIDENT. O GLOBO SAID LETTER PROVED PRESIDENT WAS RIGHT WHEN, AT ALAGOINHAS, HE SPOKE OF MILITARY OFFICERS WHO CONSIDERED THEMSELVES AUTONOMOUS POWER. PAPERS WENT ON TO SAY THAT ACCUSATIONS AGAINST NEGRAO DE LIMA COMPLETELY UNJUSTIFIED AND THAT EFFORT TO BLOCK HIS INVESTITURE COULD ONLY BE CARRIED ON BY ENEMIES OF PEOPLE AND DEMOCRACY.
3. JORNAL DO BRASIL SAID LETTER MAY REPRESENT STRONG MILITARY DESIRE TO FREE BRAZIL OF TRADITIONAL POLITICAL VICES BUT THIS HEALTHY IDEALISM CANNOT BECOME DESTRUCTIVE IRREALISM, JB SAID THAT MILITARY DISSIDENTS ARE ONLY SERVING AS INSTRUMENT FOR CIVILIAN FORCES DEFEATED IN ELECTION WHO DESIRE TO HIDE BEHIND MILITARY PRESTIGE TO DEFRAUD POPULAR WILL. RATION DOES NOT WANT MILITARY INDISCIPLINE OR BREAK OF PRINCIPLE OF HIERARCHY; CORRECT LINE FOR MILIATARY IS NOT "HARD LINE" BUT CONSTITUTIONAL LINE.
4. ULTIMA HORA SAID LETTER IS GRAVE SYMPTON OF REBELLIOUS STATE OF SPIRIT IN ARMED FORCES WHICH GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO CONFRONT. SAID IF GOVERNMENT MAKES FURTHER ANTI-DEMOCRATIC CONCESSIONS TO "HARD LINE" IT WILL HAVE LOST ITS PRESTIGE AND AUTHORITY BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF BARRACKS. CORREIO DA MANHA MADE MUCH SAME POINT SAYING THAT GOVERNMENT THAT TRAFFIS WITH RADICALS ENDS UP BEING THEIR PRISONER.

30-1008-RGD

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Hard line

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5. TRIBUNA DA IMPRENSA, ON OTHER HAND, SAID BOAVENTURA LETTER WAS MANIFESTO OF CONSCIENTIOUS (CONSCIENTE), INTRASIGENT, AND IMPATIENT DEMOCRAT WHOSE LEADERSHIP IS RESPECTED AND RECOGNIZED. EDIT ASSERTED THAT THOSE WHO KNOW HOW TO READ LETTER WILL KNOW WHAT TO DO AND WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN. IN "NEWS" COLUMN, TRIBUNA REPORTS ARMY LINING UP BEHIND BOAVENTURA BUT THIS NOT CONFIRMED BY OTHER PRESS REPORTS.

GORDON

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