

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

INCOMING AMEMBASSY OFFICE BRASILIA

LAGERDA

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Control:

Recd:

DEPT	
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R 122109Z
 FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 779
 INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 57
 STATE GRNC
 BT
 C O N F I D E N T I A L OCTOBER 12.

1. IN WRITTEN STATEMENT TO JORNAL DO BRASIL OCTOBER 11 CARLOS LACERDA SAID: " HE (PRESIDENT) IS UGLIER INSIDE THAN HE IS OUTSIDE. I HAVE SEEN HIM FROM THE INSIDE." ADDED THAT NOW HE ONLY WANTS TO BE LEFT ALONE TO EARN A LIVING AND NOT TO HEAR ANY MORE OF "CASTELLO BRANCO, (WALTER) MOREIRA SALLES, AND OTHER NATIONAL HEROES. AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THEY MAY REMAIN TRANQUIL. NOT BEING ABLE TO VOMIT THEM, I DO NOT WANT TO SWALLOW THEM. AT THIS POINT THEY DO NOT CAUSE REVOLT, THEY CAUSE NAUSEA."

2. THIS STATEMENT PLAYED IN LOW KEY IN ALL PAPERS.

3. PRESIDENT OF CONTEL, DENIED THAT NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL HAD REQUESTED THAT LACERDA BE DENIED ACCESS TO TV AND RADIO. THIS CONFIRMED BY LACERDA AIDE WHO TOLD EMBOFFS GOVERNMENT PRESSURING TV AND RADIO STATIONS TO KEEP LACERDA OFF AIR BUT HAD ISSUED NO FORMAL ORDER TO THIS EFFECT.

4. COMMENT: VULGARITY SEEMS OUT OF TUNE IN PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION; IT INDICATES DEPTHS OF LACERDA'S RANCOR BUT IS HARDLY LIKELY TO HELP HIS COMEBACK. REFERENCE TO MOREIRA SALLES IS ECHO OF LACERDA'S CAMPAIGN ACCUSATION THAT HE BANKROLLED NEGRAO CAMPAIGN IN RETURN FOR PROMISE OF ECONOMIC FAVORS.

ACTION
TAKEN

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