

# TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the  
United States of America

INCOMING

Amembassy Brasilia

ACTION:

CONFIDENTIAL

POL-2

Classification

Control:

INFO:

Recd: August 24, 1964  
0913

PRINOFF

FROM: AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO

RF

FILES

NO: 28, August 22, 12 Noon

## POLITICAL

ACTION PRIORITY DEPT 425 INFO BRASILIA 28 SAO PAULO 24

RD✓ AMFORP

LB✓

TD✓

RB✓

PM✓

ECON

ADMIN

US

AID

AIR

CF

1. Amforp purchase approved in Brasilia by National Security Council Friday and copies initialed memo stating agreed terms given to Congress and press. Prior to NSC meeting, Minister Thibau appeared before joint session Mines and Energy committees chamber and senate. He was very stiffly crossexamined, notably by Senator Joao Agripino who denounced sale as "old hardware" purchased on terms highly disadvantageous to nation. Press attacks Saturday include sharp editorial in Correio da Manha, Diario de Noticias headline "utility companies will carry away billions;" and Ultima Hora "utility purchase augments struggle against Castillo." Thibau defended terms of purchase but played main weight his defense on grounds of need to fulfill paper GOB commitment.

2. Meanwhile in Rio, discussion continued between Sargent ET AL and Benedito Dutra representing Mines Ministry on only remaining open points in contract, all concerned with clause 18 which contains terms of reference to neutral expert and basis for contract price adjustment in event expert valuation below agreed price. Company reps had long consultation with me in late afternoon on precise points in dispute. In late evening, Foreign Minister Vasco phone me from Presidents office in Brasilia, to report NSC approval and GOB willingness compromise on principal remaining disputed point, and requesting my good offices to help work out remaining issues so that initialed contract could be attached Monday to formally presidential message to congress.

3. Sargent and Dutra, each accompanied by advisers, met with me at residence from 11 PM to 2 AM. 3 points at issue were (a) whether selection of indices for monetary correction and of compatible exchange rates for monetary conversation should be specified in contract or left to judgment of neutral expert; (b) whether assets corresponding to Eximbank loans should be segregated from books with valuation thereof kept constantly in dollars; and (c) where Amforp share in any price adjustment should be 80-5% (ratio of Amforp stock plus debt to total excluding Eximbank debt) or 70-5% (ratio of Amforp stock to total stock, EST/241055

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PAGE TWO EMBTEL 28 FROM RIO

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excluding Amforp debt as well as Eximbank debt). Unfortunately, from Amforp viewpoint, point (b) was not covered in initialed memorandum, although it might prove quite significant since Eximbank loans had been entered on local books at low cruzeiro figures reflecting greatly overvalued official rates of exchange in early 1950's.

4. Discission demonstated evident desire both sides find ways of compromising all these points. Meeting to be resumed at 2 PM Saturday with purpose winding up contract terms if possible before end of day.

GP-3.

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