

TELEGRAM

OUTGOING

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

Charge:

Embassy

Classification

Control:

Date:

May 17, 1963
5:00 PM

TO: Amembassy RIO 219 PRITY

Following May 13 defeat Government proposal constitutional amendment connection agrarian reform various PTB sources have indicated disorientation to Embassy Office. Clovis Motta (PTB/PPH, Rio Grande do Norte), First Vice President Chamber, said May 15 probable course action would be consider Milton Campos (UDN, Minas Gerais) bill passed by Senate December 12, which does not require Constitutional amendment. May 17 Sub-Chief Casa Civil Brasil Barbosa said committee's finding will now require consideration whole house, and decision as to next move would await House's acceptance of rejection Committee's views. Raymundo Padilha (UDN/ADP, Rio de Janeiro) said May 17 UDN's action at Curitiba rejecting constitutional amendment had cut ground out from under PSD, since base of PSD opposed agrarian reform, and this made it necessary PTB consider new approach more acceptable to PSD and less radical.

Brasil Barbosa admitted that cabinet meeting scheduled 10 AM May 17 probably considering approach to adopt on agrarian reform. Brasilia press suggests that cabinet meeting considering greater PSD participation government, and Marcus Heusi, chief of cabinet to Chief of Civil Household said May 17 any government changes coming out of present ~~xxx~~ rethinking likely involve shift toward PSD.

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Heusi said now foregone conclusion that Foreign Minister Hermes Lima (PTB, Bahia) will receive Supreme Court appointment near future, thus making cabinet change sure, but timing depends on various political factors. Press speculated that no cabinet changes likely before return Balbino, and Heusi agrees, although Brasil Barbosa observed that telephonic communications with Europe are quite good.

Please protect sources.

KEYSER

POL:CDKeyser:lma

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