

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

OUTGOING

Charge: Embassy

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Control: 007

Date: November 8, 1963
13:13

TO: Department of State 65

INFO: Rio 157

On the afternoon of November 7, President Goulart spoke before about 500 "camponeses" assembled in the Palacio do Planalto for a SUPRA sponsored symbolic distribution of spring seed and called for immediate agrarian reform. Goulart was proceeded at the microphone by two presidents of local peasant leagues and SUPRA chief João Pinheiro Neto who stimulated the crowd with words of "revolution" and "land for everyone". Goulart stated that agrarian reform was inevitable, necessary, and would be the means for affecting Brazil's social revolution, but stressed several times that this revolution should be peaceful and bloodless. Goulart drew the one sincere reaction from his artificially assembled audience when he stated that the government would "legalize" immediately the land tenure of the peasants of the Federal District. Land titles have always been dubious in the new capital.

COMMENT: Although still pressuring strongly for agrarian reform through Constitutional amendment, Goulart's words of caution reflect desire not antagonize Congress at

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this time or jeopardize current delicate negotiation with PSD.
Audience of some 500 (not 2000 as reported by press)
appeared consist largely of unemployed construction workers
brought in by bus and truck. Organizing claque evidently
tied to Supra Chief Pinheiro who received eulogies and heavy
applause.

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