

Brasilia

575

**LIMITED OFFICIAL USE**

A-971

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

AIR POUCH

Department of State

AMERICAN EMBASSY

suby-PTB

MAR 11 1963

BRASILIA, BRAZIL

Amembassy, Brasilia Office

February 27, 1963

Goulart-Brizzola Relationship, PTB Politics, and Other Matters

There are enclosed two memoranda of conversation, one with President Joao Goulart's private secretary, Mrs. Cloris Smith Braz, the other with her husband, Jose Smith Braz, in which the Brazes discussed the Goulart-Brizzola relationship, PTB politics, and other matters.

All con-  
sulates,  
Brazil;  
AMB, DCM,  
Ser. Atts.,  
USIS,  
Econ (2),  
Pol I (5),  
POL II,  
Labor,  
CF (3),  
Brasilia  
(5).

Mrs. Braz, who has been Goulart's private secretary for some 13 years (and, some say, his mistress during part of this time), expressed the opinion that the relationship between Goulart and his quasi-Communist brother-in-law, Leonel Brizzola (PTB federal deputy from Guanabara), was one of semi-conspiratorial cooperation. Brizzola, she said, acts as a bellwether for the left, thus keeping the leftist masses of Brazil out of the hands of the Communists. Goulart himself formerly filled the same function of left flank guard for Getulio Vargas, she said.

Braz said that he had been a PTB candidate for federal deputy from Santa Catarina, having won only a second alternate's position (third alternate, according to official records) because of the opposition of the Santa Catarina Roman Catholic clergy and because the Santa Catarina PTB organization feared that the election of a Goulart associate would make him the most significant PTB personality in the state.

Both Braz and Mrs. Braz have a number of rather odd and quite fuzzy beliefs, such as that the Chinese attacked the Indian frontier because they see India as the road to

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

CM  
POL: CDKeyser/HWeiner/fjm

**LIMITED OFFICIAL USE**

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND53326



Brazil, and that the flow of foreign capital to Brazil has been unaffected by the profits remittance law (it has been cut to about one-sixth of normal). While Mrs. Braz is pleasant and rather pretty (she is now a rather plumpish thirty-fivish woman with a remarkably clear skin, who might have been a beauty at one time), Mr. Braz is a rather self-important and emotional nationalist, whose perhaps most revealing remark was that it is necessary that people believe in Brazil. This rather passionate assertion was typical of the undertone of emotional self-righteousness and defensiveness which led the reporting officer to believe that he would take unkindly to contradiction or confrontation with disagreeable facts. Braz, incidentally, has a reputation for being rather corrupt.

For the Ambassador:

John Keppel  
Counselor of Embassy  
for Political Affairs

Enclosures:

- (1) Memorandum of Conversation  
(Senhora Cleris Smith Braz).
- (2) Memerandum of Conversation  
(Senhor José Smith Braz).



MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

January 29, 1963

**PARTICIPANTS:** Senhora Cloris Smith Braz, Official de Gabinete  
to President João Goulart

José Smith Braz, Official of the Ministry of  
Agriculture

Second Secretary C. Direk Keyser

Second Secretary Harry Weiner

Mrs. Keyser

Mrs. Weiner

**PLACE:** Weiner Residence

**SUBJECT:** Brizzola-Goulart Relationship and Other Matters

---

During an extended conversation before, during, and after dinner at the Weiner residence, Mrs. Braz expounded her views on a variety of subjects.

She said that Leonel Brizzola, the quasi-Communist brother-in-law of Goulart, acts as a bellwether for the left, serving to keep the leftist masses of Brazil out of the hands of the Communists. She indicated that the Goulart-Brizzola relationship on this point was one of semi-conspiratorial cooperation. Goulart himself had formerly filled the same function of left flank guard for Getulio Vargas.

Mrs. Braz indicated that in this manner, the left could be contained; otherwise, "we would all end on lamp-posts"; there is no need to be alarmed about Brizzola, or to see ghosts by daylight.

Mrs. Smith Braz gave the following (fantastic) interpretation of the Chinese Communist attack on India: it was aimed at opening a road through India, across southern Africa to Brazil, where a vast, rich, unpopulated hinterland could accommodate the seen-to-be one billion Chinese.



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Page 2  
Enclosure 3  
Airgram A-971  
Brasilia Office

Mrs. Braz is the sponsor of a "Boys Town" in Natal to which the Federal Government will contribute part of a FAB base there. USAID is interested in the project, she said. She expounded at length on the vanity of giving poor youths a classical education. They need vocational training which will fit them for the reality of life and end the harmful, wandering migration from the Northeast.

She noted that she had worked for Goulart as his secretary for about 13 years. Her brother is a Brazilian Foreign Service Officer stationed as consul in Japan. He recently went to Korea to issue visas to Korean immigrants, and is a correspondent for the pro-Goulart Manchete magazine. (A Moacir Martins Ferreira was mentioned in the February 2, 1963, Manchete as being consul in Yokohama, and as having recently gone to Korea to issue 88 immigrant visas.)

CDKeyser/HWeiner

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Page 1  
Enclosure 2  
Airgram A-971  
Brasilia Office

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

January 29, 1963

**PARTICIPANTS:** José Smith Braz, Official of the Ministry of  
Agriculture  
Senhora Cloris Smith Braz, Oficial de Gabinete  
to President João Goulart  
Second Secretary C. Dirck Keyser  
Second Secretary Harry Weiner  
Mrs. Keyser  
Mrs. Weiner

**PLACE:** Weiner Residence

**SUBJECT:** Santa Catarina Politics and Other Matters

---

During an extended conversation before, during, and after dinner at the Weiner residence, Mr. Braz expounded his views on a number of subjects. He said that he is a member of the PTB and has always supported João Goulart, and had fought the election of Jânio Quadros. Quadros' election, he said, had been the cause of all of Brazil's troubles. Brazil had been wandering in the night. Now things would be different because Brazil has a plan. Nothing can be accomplished without a plan.

Braz said that he was a director of the Ministry of Agriculture, being responsible for the department concerned with cooperatives. When Quadros became president, one of the first things he had done was to fire Braz.

Since 1961, Braz has been a business partner with Alberico Fraga, rector of the University of Bahia (Fraga is a former Bahia state president of the UDN, and was appointed rector of the University by Quadros) in an agricultural enterprise which owns a large farm on the southern coast of the state of Bahia at Santa Cruz Cabralia. The farm is larger than the State of Guanabara and has several kilometers of ocean beaches. Braz says he spends much of his time in Bahia nowadays.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



Braz explained that he had been a PTB candidate for federal deputy in Santa Catarina, announcing his candidacy only 35 days before the October 7, 1962 elections. The PTB won two of the 14 Santa Catarina seats, and Braz was the second suplente on the PTB list. (According to Supreme Electoral Tribunal records, he is the third suplente.) He attributed his lack of success to the opposition of the Santa Catarina Roman Catholic clergy and the Santa Catarina PTB organization. The clergy had fought him as a "Communist": they were a very clerical lot, having a heavy percentage of Italian and German clergy, and were not as advanced as the clergy of the Northeast. Braz seemed quite bitter about the Santa Catarina clergy, and went on at some length about what a good Catholic he is, and what good relations he has with the clergy in the Northeast.

The Santa Catarina PTB organization had resisted him because he was a close associate of President Goulart's, and his election would have made him the dominant figure in the Santa Catarina PTB.

The profit remittance bill was a necessary measure of discipline, and was not anti-foreign. Other countries have similar legislation. The bill has not affected foreign investments in Brazil, which have continued at their regular rate. (According to Embassy statistics, foreign investments in Brazil dropped to about one sixth their normal rate during 1962.)

Brazil's program of rapid development and of pushing access roads deep into the hinterland is necessary. Brazil is going through the developmental stage that the United States went through during the Nineteenth Century. It is very important, because in a very short time there will be five billion men, and a billion of them will be Chinese. If the Brazilians don't develop their vast uninhabited interior, someone else will. What is necessary is that people believe in Brazil.

Braz holds that San Tiago Dantas won fewer votes in 1962 than in the past because of his leftist international policies. The Brazilian people do not favor such policies. San Tiago Dantas himself does not believe everything he says, and many of his apparently anti-American remarks are simply designed to please the crowd.

Braz' interpretation of Miguel Arrais, the Communist or pro-Communist governor-elect of Pernambuco, is that he is the San Tiago Dantas of Pernambuco. He adopts a leftist position



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Page 3  
Enclosure 2  
Airgram A-971  
Brasilia Office

because it is popular, not because he really believes it.

Asked about federal deputy Fernando de Sant'Anna (PTB, Bahia), who is generally reputed to be a Communist and who was refused nomination by the Bahia PTB in 1962, Braz said that Sant'Anna had shifted to the PSD because of the PTB's refusal to renominate him, which he attributed to Bahia politics. ( In Bahia at the time, it was said that the PTB objected to his links with the Communists.)

Braz comes from Minas Gerais, he says; one of his grand-fathers came from Southampton, England, while the other was from Portugal. His 16-year old son plans to go to Harvard. Braz himself has travelled in Europe, but not in the United States; he has had to refuse several U.S. invitations--one from USAID--because each time, as he was on the point of departure, the President required his presence in Brazil. Braz mentioned a number of American friends.

CDKeyser

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND53326