

TELEGRAM

OUTGOING

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United States of America

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In surprise move twenty fifth calculated catch Governor and top ARENA leadership out of town 31 State Deputies comprising entire MDB element plus four ~~xxx~~ ARENA dissidents (three ex-PL and one ex-PDC) offered Governorship to Professor Rui Cirne Lima who thus far belongs neither party. Confirmation by MDB state convention needed but mere formality. Rui accepted stressing no strings attached and later expressed confidence ability Costa E Silva give Brazil democratic government. While Rui has impressive ability and spotless reputation fact remains his election would be opposition victory and as such slap in face Castelo Branco and dangerous example other States. While no one predicts what will happen few believe President willing effect number cassations required prevent election or presently able find basis future intervention. Assume four dissidents will be expelled from ARENA thus giving MDB comfortable majority Assembly.

DUFFIELD

Drafted by:

Approving Officer:

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