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OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM

TO: AmConsul PORTO ALEGRE

FROM: AmEmbassy RIO DE JANEIRO

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION: Administrative Support for Eclipse Observers

REF: Consulate's OM of June 24, 1966

Points raised in the reference OM are discussed in correspondingly numbered paragraphs below:

1. The Embassy agrees with the Consulate's attitude toward basic support for the various scientific teams although it is pointed out that preliminary information available to the Scientific Attaché indicates that there will be 300 to 400 participants rather than 200.
2. Since the import of equipment, effects, etc., has already been arranged and considering the close cooperation between the U.S. Government, the private components of the observation teams and the Brazilian Government, the Embassy sees no need for official visas. Should the Consulate or any of the personnel involved perceive any advantage to be gained through obtaining them, this should, of course, be done.
3. The Embassy agrees that U.S. Government channels should be used for official telegraphic traffic whenever possible. Embassy facilities will be available for refiling to Washington headquarters any telegrams received commercially from Porto Alegre. As a further economy measure, messages could be pouched to Rio for telegraphic transmission if time permits.
4. The group handling finances for the observation team spoke to Miss Abell on June 27. It was agreed that either, 1) they would send a \$10,000 check through the Consulate pouch to the USDO who would send a cruzeiro check back to them via the Consulate which they would deposit in the City Bank and then disburse from that; 2) the USDO would send the cruzeiros via bank transfer to their account in Porto Alegre or to any other bank; or 3) they would bring checks with them to Porto Alegre in denominations of \$2,000 to cash individually at the Consulate. Since the Consulate has an advance of Cr\$22 million and accommodation exchange vouchers are now being received at intervals not less than a week apart, the Consulate could, if necessary, send a replenishment voucher for accommodation exchange daily as some of the other posts do when serving a temporary operation such as this.
5. The Embassy is prepared to process official mail for the

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Eclipse Observer Team. Mail should be addressed:

John Doe
Eclipse Observer Team
American Embassy, Rio de Janeiro
c/o Department of State
Washington, D. C.

The return address must be shown on all outgoing mail. Mail will be dispatched daily from the Embassy to the Consulate, Pôrto Alegre, in the regular daily pouch for onward delivery.

The Consulate is requested to furnish a list of official personnel as they become known.

6. The Embassy is of the opinion that the number of personnel now composing the group and the difficulty of transportation precludes commissary and exchange privileges.

7. The Embassy appreciates the early attention given to these matters and will give all required assistance to personnel transiting Rio de Janeiro.

Drafted by: ~~Comm:~~
~~MINNICK~~: VRS/len/sw

Cleared by:
B&F: PJabbour
POL: JEAsper
DON: DBWallace

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