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17  
American Consulate  
Pôrto Alegre, October 22, 1965

OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

Dear Mr. Ellis:

I am sorry to be turning into a terrible bore on the subject of the bridge(s), but our newly arrived vice consul, Bob Gillin, told me of the Ambassador's great interest in the matter, and I therefore believe that it bears fairly close attention.


I enclose a representative clipping from today's Correio do Povo, which refers to work being done on the foundations for what indeed seems to be the Bailey bridge, to be located where the former permanent one stood. You will note that the expected date of completion is quite different from the one you gave me, and moreover, that there is no mention whatsoever of any part being played by AID in making it possible.

Could it be that AID is helping to finance the permanent bridge (expected to be ready in May-June)? If this is so, there has been no mention of that in the press, either.

A number of persons have been asking me just where we stand, and it would give me no little satisfaction to be able to give them an accurate reply.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

  
Thomas J. Duffield  
American Consul

Mr. William A. Ellis  
Deputy Director,  
USAID/Brazil,  
c/o American Embassy,  
Rio de Janeiro

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