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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

Dictated: March 7, 1969  
Typed : March 12, 1969

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**ACTION COPY**

OFFICIAL INFORMAL

Honorable Robert F. Corrigan  
American Consul General  
São Paulo, Brazil

Dear Bob:

There has just been brought to my desk within the last hour, for the first time, a copy of your Memcon of February 12 relating to your talk with two Brazilian Army officers and a Brazilian lawyer about IA-5 and USG-GOB relations. It was forwarded under cover of the Embassy's airgram A-137 of February 25. I note that the Embassy's airgram was despatched about nine or ten days ago, and this is a little longer than usual for such transmission time, but we do have elapsed time like this occasionally.

I am trying to make a point about the dates involved in this only because I think you personally are an especially important officer in Brazil, in a key position and location, and with long experience in Latin American affairs, and because I consider your taking the time to write an 8-page Memcon with two pages of comment to be of importance. I regret, more than I am willing to say in this letter, that your Memcon with its comments was not available to me before today. I am speaking only for myself and my own position here in writing to you and Bill. I am dictating this letter immediately after reading the

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airgram and without having discussed it with anyone else whatsoever. (I note that an advance copy of the airgram was to have been sent to ARA/LA-BR, but I do not recall ever having seen it before and am checking further on this point.)

I recognize that much of what was said by the Brazilians in the Memcon has been conveyed to us before; nonetheless, I found it useful to read. However, my main interest by far was in your own comments. I think I have a better understanding of your own point of view about IA-5, its aftermath, and its bearing on USG/GOB relations, than I have ever had before.

Not that I agree with all of your comments--I don't. Although my differences are not terribly important, perhaps I should identify them so you can see for yourself. For example, I agree that if the United States were to decide "to restrict or not resume aid to Brazil or publicly scold or express disapproval of the GOB," our relations could easily deteriorate to a point of crisis. However, I assume you know that we have not yet and have no intention of publicly scolding or expressing disapproval of the GOB, and that we have been seeking for some time the best moment for resuming, at least partially, aid relationships with Brazil. I mention this not so much because it illustrates a difference between us but because I was somewhat surprised to see it as a comment of yours in a Memcon, since it seemed to be, even hypothetically, at some distance from the mainstream of our thinking. Perhaps this is the old problem of communications compounded by the elapsed time since you drafted the Memcon.

Although I hadn't intended to write quite this much, having started, I may as well go on with a few additional minor observations. I myself would hardly characterize USG recognition of Peru as "quick." The coup took place October 3 and we recognized, I believe, October 25. Nor

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am I aware of any "promise" of a continuation of aid in an "imploring gesture" for the new government to settle with IPC.

And to say that Brazil "extricated" the U.S. from a "grave political predicament" in the DR seems to me somewhat of an overstatement.

Nor do I have the feeling that the Brazilian military and the GOB are "imploring" us not to pressure them publicly. I realize that we have had some signals along this line and so my comment on this particular point is really one of degree rather than substance. That is to say, I don't have the impression at all that there is a general "imploring" taking place from Brazil, because I don't have the impression that there is any generalized fear there that we will publicly exert pressure on the GOB in an effort to force compliance with our norms of conduct or to placate certain segments of U.S. or Hemisphere opinion.

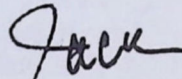
I also note your comment that the American Chamber in São Paulo to a man hopes ardently that aid will be resumed and the best possible cooperative relationship established and maintained. This hardly surprises me, although I infer that you might be inclined to give somewhat more weight to their views than I.

Please don't reply to this letter--unless you or Bill really believe it to be necessary. I don't, and don't expect a reply. I have really written it primarily as a means of telling you both that I have very high regard and, I believe, an important need as well, for your views in your capacity as our Consul General in São Paulo--even though I may not always agree with them. I went on at some length only because I had started and felt you would want me to identify some examples of where I differed with you, even though such differences were not really relevant to the main point I am trying to

to make. It is an old point and one which I suppose Desk Officers have been making since the beginning of time to officers in the field: let us have your reports and your views, and let us receive them as promptly as possible. We really need them.

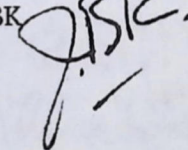
With warm regards to you both,

Sincerely,



Jack B. Kubisch  
Brazil Country Director

P.S. I have been unable to find that we ever received the advance copy of the Memcon.

JBK 

cc: Honorable William Belton  
Rio de Janeiro