



Department of State

TELEGRAM

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA POL-15

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ACTION
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RIO 7834

SEPT 23, 1969

ACTION COPY

ACTION TAKEN *Sc*

R 222150Z SEP 69
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1140
INFO RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 4807
RUESEI/AMCONSUL RECIFE 2839
RUESUP/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 3957
RULPAL/USCINCSO
BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIO DE JANEIRO 7834

SUBJECT: MILITARY MINISTERS STATE HIGH COMMAND MEETINGS STRESS SECURITY; DONA IOLANDA SILENCED AND ANDREAZZA REPRIMANDED

1. PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY ON SEPT 19 ISSUED NOTE FROM MILITARY MINISTERS (PUBLISHED SEPT 20) REFERRING TO "TENDENTIOUS REPORTS OR INTENTIONAL DISTORTIONS DISSEMINATED BY SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS OR ALARMISTS" WITH REGARD TO MEETINGS OF HIGH MILITARY COMMANDS AND AFFIRMING THAT THE "PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES OF THOSE MEETINGS CONCERNED PROBLEMS OF INTERNAL SECURITY." NOTE OBSERVED THAT IN THIS RESPECT THE MINISTERS WERE ADOPTING APPROPRIATE MEASURES, "AMONG THEM REFORMULATION OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY LAW AND REACTIVATION OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS" (REFERENCE WHICH IMPLIES POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER PUNITIVE MEASURES, INCLUDING "CASSATIONS"). NOTE CONCLUDED WITH STATEMENT THAT THE "MILITARY MINISTERS, CONSCIOUS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY, ARE OBSERVING THE EVOLUTION OF PRESIDENT'S HEALTH" AND THAT "WITHIN THE PROGRAM ALREADY ESTABLISHED, THEY WILL HAVE AT THE END OF NEXT WEEK (WEEK BEGINNING SEPT 21) A NEW CONFERENCE WITH THE PRESIDENT'S MEDICAL TEAM." (IMPLICATION IS THAT NO DECISION ON THE SUCCESSION WILL BE TAKEN OR AT LEAST ANNOUNCED BEFORE THEN. SEE ALSO RIO'S 7833).

2. PRESIDENT'S WIFE, DONA IOLANDA--OBVIOUSLY AT GOVERNMENT'S BIDDING--HAS CEASED HER OPTIMISTIC DECLARATIONS TO PRESS RE PRESIDENT'S RECOVERY, AND MINISTER TRANSPORTATION MARIO ANDREAZZA IN EFFECT HAS BEEN PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED FOR STATEMENTS LAST WEEK IMPLYING UNSEEMLY HASTE ON THE PART

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OF THE MILITARY MINISTERS IN SEEKING A SUCCESSOR BEFORE PROSPECTS PRESIDENT'S RECOVERY ARE DEFINITELY KNOWN. REPRIMAND TOOK FORM OF NOTE BY GENERAL RODRIGO OCTAVIO JORDAO RAMOS, MILITARY COMMANDER OF AMAZONAS, REPUDIATING SUCH STATEMENTS AS "UNNECESSARY, BASELESS AND EVEN UNPATRIOTIC" AND STRESSING THAT TODAY'S PROBLEM IS IN "MILITARY-POLITICAL NOT POLITICAL-MILITARY SPHERE" AND SHOULD NOT BE ADDRESSED BY "PERSON WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR DECISION." NOTE ISSUED IN MANAUS BUT PUBLISHED ALSO IN RIO AND SAO PAULO.

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