

# TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the  
United States of America

INCOMING AMEMBASSY BRASILIA DEF-6

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Recd: APR 12, 1969

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TO RUEOJFA/DIA

RUESVB/USCINCSO (J-2)

RUEAOWD/OACSI DA

RULPAK/USARSO (G-2)

RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

RUESUP/AMCONSULATE SAO PAULO

RUESEI/AMCONSULATE RECIFE

ZEN/AMCONSULATE PORTO ALEGE

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(U) SUBJECT: ARMY GENERAL OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS.

1. (U) THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL GENERAL OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED:

GEN ALVARO ALVES DA SILVA BRAGA - FM DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL TO SUPERIOR MILITARY TRIBUNAL.

MG REYNALDO MELLO DE ALMEIDA - FM COMDT COMMAND AND GEN STAFF SCHOOL TO DEPUTY CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF.

MG LAURO ALVES PINTO - FM UNASSIGNED TO ATTACHED TO ARMY SECRETARIAT FOR SPECIAL DUTY.

BG ADOLPHO JOAO DE PAULA COUTO - FM COMDT MIL ACADEMY TO COMDT COMD AND GENERAL STAFF SCHOOL.

BG CARLOS DE MEIRA MATTOS - FM INSPECTOR GENERAL STATE MILITIAS TO COMDT MIL ACADEMY

BG AUGUSTO DE OLIVEIRA PEREIRA - FM 2ND DEP CHIEF ARMY GEN STAFF TO INSPECTOR GENERAL STATE MILITIAS.

BG EDMUNDO DA COSTA NEVES - RELIEVED OF COMMAND FRONTIER ELEMENTS (NEW ASSIGNMENT NOT ANNOUNCED).

BG VENITIUS NAZARE NOTIARE - FM COMD 1ST ENGR GROUP TO COMD OF FRONTIER ELEMENTS.

BG SAMUEL AUGUSTO ALVES CORREA - FM CHIEF OF STAFF, FOURTH ARMY TO COMD ENGR. GROUP.

BG JOSE PINTO RABELO - FM COMMAND DIV ARTY, 4TH DIV TO CHIEF OF STAFF, FOURTH ARMY.

BG AUGUSTO CID DE CAMARGO OSORIO - NEWLY PROMOTED AND ASSG TO DIV ARTY, 4TH DIV.

BG ALCY JARDIM DE MATOS - FM COMMAND OF DIV ARTY, 2ND DIV TO SUB DIRECTOR OF RECRUITING.

BG ANTONIO CARLOS DE ANDRADA SERPA - NEWLY PROMOTED AND ASSG TO DIV ARTY, 2ND CIV.

BG EULER BENTES MONTEIRO - FM DIRECTOR OF SUDENE TO CHIEF SUPERIOR

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FINANCE & ECON COUNCIL OF ARMY.

BG CARLOS ALBERTO CABRAL RIBEIRO - FM CG OF 2ND BRIGADE TO CHIEF OF STAFF, FIRST ARMY.

BG ALBERTO CARLOS DE MANDONCA LIMA - FM CG 2ND MIXED BRIGADE TO CG 2ND INF BRIGADE.

BG HUGO DE ANDRADA ABREU - NEWLY PROMOTED AND NOW ASST. ARMA, WASHINGTON TO CG OF 2ND MIXED BRIGADE. IN CORUMBA.

BG MANUEL JOSE CORREA DE LACERDA - NEWLY PROMOTED AND ASSGD AS CG OF INFANTRY OF 3RD DIV.

BG CARLOS MARIO TABERT - NEWLY PROMOTED AND ASGD AS DIRECTOR OF ESTRELA FACTORY.

2. ASSIGNMENT OF GEN. BRAGA TO SUPERIOR MILITARY TRIBUNAL EXPECTED AS HE WANTED A LESS DEMANDING ASSIGNMENT AND A TEMPORARY VACANCY WAS CREATED WHEN GEN. MOURAO WAS "PERSUADED" (IN LIEU OF FORCED RETIREMENT) TO REQUEST A LEAVE OF ABSENCE UNTIL HIS NORMAL RETIREMENT COMES UP IN 1970. GEN BRAGA'S MOVE TO THE SUPERIOR TRIBUNAL OPENS UP ANOTHER 4-STAR BILLET AND MINISTER LYRA TAVARES CAN BE EXPECTED TO PUSH HARD IN FAVOR OF HIS CLOSE FRIEND, MG ISAAC NAHON, WHO IS THE NEXT ELIGIBLE MAJOR GENERAL, BUT GENERALLY HELD IN LOW REGARD WITHIN THE ARMY.

3. (⊖) THE ASSIGNMENT OF GEN. PAULA COUTO TO THE IMPORTANT GENERAL STAFF SCHOOL BILLET COULD PROVE TROUBLESOME, PAULA COUTO HAS JUST BEEN SACKED FROM COMMAND OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY BECAUSE OF ADMINISTRATIVE INCOMPETENCE AND THIS FACT IS GENERALLY KNOWN AMONG THE PROUD STAFF AND FACULTY AND STUDENT BODY AT THE STAFF SCHOOL. GRUMBLING ALREADY EXISTS THERE OVER BEING HANDED A "DISCARD." THE ASSIGNMENT OF MEIRA MATTOS TO THE MILITARY ACADEMY CONSTITUTES ANOTHER IN THE LONG STRING OF CHALLENGES HE HAS FACED. IT IS THE PRIME JOB FOR A BRIGADIER GENERAL AND HE CAN ADD TO THE AURA OF SUCCESS THAT SURROUNDS HIS CAREER BY CLEANING UP THE MESS LEFT THERE BY PAULA COUTO.

4. (⊖) GEN. VENITIUS NOTARE CERTAINLY IS NOT PROGRESSING IN GOING FROM THE CHOICE ENGINEER GROUP COMMAND TO THE LESS-THAN-ATTRACTIVE FRONTIER ELEMENTS COMMAND. VENITIUS IS A CLOSE SUPPORTER OF FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER AFFONSO ALBUQUERQUE LIMA, AND SENT THE MINISTER A STRONG TELEGRAM OF SOLIDARITY AT THE TIME OF AFFONSO'S RESIGNATION, THUS, THE NEW JOB PROBABLY REFLECTS THE ADMINISTRATION'S UNHAPPINESS WITH THE OUTSTANDING VENITIUS. IN THE BARGAIN, HOWEVER, THE FRONTIER ELEMENTS GAIN A TOP-NOTCH COMMANDER AND THE ENGINEER GROUP WILL HAVE CONTINUITY OF EXCELLENCE IN THE PERSON OF THE COMPETENT BG SAMUEL CORREA.

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5. (⊖) POOR GEN. JOSE PINTO RABELO CONTINUES TO DO PENANCE FOR HAVING LOST CONTROL OF THE STUDENT BODY AT THE LATE OFFICERS ADVANCED SCHOOL AT THE VILA MILITAR WHERE, IN OCTOBER OF LAST YEAR, YOUNG CAPTAINS DREW UP A MEMORANDUM OF GRIEVANCES WITH JOSE PINTO'S BLESSING. NOT ONLY WAS HIS SCHOOL DISSOLVED, BUT THE GENERAL IS NOW GOING TO HIS THIRD POST SINCE LATE 1968. INITIALLY, HE WAS ATTACHED TO THE GENERAL STAFF: MOST RECENTLY, HE HAS BEEN WITH DIV ARTY OF THE 4TH DIVISION, AND NOW HE IS GOING TO BE CHIEF OF STAFF THE 4TH ARMY. GEN. JOSE PINTO IS A VERY CAPABLE OFFICER, BUT HE WANTS TO BE POPULAR AT ALL COSTS AND HE ALSO SUFFERS FROM A TOUCH OF AGGRESSIVENESS IN HIS REVOLUTIONARY FERVOR. HE APPARENTLY ENJOYS A POSITION OF FAVORITISM WITH D. YOLANDA COSTA E SILVA, THUS, HE IS NOT ENTIRELY OUT OF THE PICTURE. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW WELL HE KEEPS HIS HARD-LINING TENDENCIES UNDER CONTROL IN PROVOCATIVE RECIFE.

6. (⊖) GEN. CARLOS ALBERTO CABRAL RIBEIRO IS AN OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL BUT HE HAS BECOME OVERLY INVOLVED WITH THE MESSY STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO POLITICS AND ASSUMED AN EXTREMELY RADICAL POSTURE ON 12-13 DECEMBER. AS CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE FIRST ARMY HE WILL BROADEN HIS HORIZONS AND WILL ALSO RESTRAIN HIS TEMPTATIONS TO SPEAK OUT ON POLITICAL ISSUES. HIS SUCCESSOR, GEN. MENDONCA LIMA, IS NOT A POLITICAL CREATURE AND PROBABLY WILL GIVE THE 2ND INF. BRIGADE A LOWER KEY APPROACH TO LIFE IN GENERAL. COMMENT: (⊖) THE ESSENCE OF THESE ASSIGNMENTS IS A CLEAR REINFORCEMENT OF PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA'S OVERALL CONTROL OF HIS ARMY APPARATUS. NOT ONLY AREN'T ANY GENERAL OFFICER'S SENSITIVITIES TOO OBVIOUSLY CHALLENGED BY ANY OF THESE MOVES, BUT ALL OF THE GENERALS INVOLVED OWE AT LEAST ONE GENERAL OFFICER PROMOTION TO EITHER WAR MINISTER COSTA E SILVA OR PRESIDENT COSTA E SILVA. GP-3.

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