



Kol Gray

Department of State

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~ 899

PAGE 01 BRASIL 00706 022140Z

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *AW 969033*

45
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 AID-20 RSR-01
/094 W

*Brasilia 706
3-2-72*

098002

R 022110Z MAR 72
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3336
INFO AMCONSUL RECIFE
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

~~SECRET~~ BRASILIA 0706

SUBJECT: DEBATE ON "DEMOCRATIC OPENING" AROUSES
POLITICAL CLASS

1. SUMMARY: PERIODIC DEBATE ON PROSPECTS OF "DEMOCRATIC OPENING" HAS SURFACED ANEW, PROVOKED BY FEDERAL DEPUTY CLOVIS STENZEL (ARENA-RGS). WHILE "POLITICAL CLASS" UNANIMOUS IN VOICING CRITICISM OF STENZEL'S OPPOSITION TO REVOCATION IA-5, INDICATIONS ARE THAT STENZEL'S POSITION ENJOYS FULL BACKING GOB. NO ACTION REQUESTED.

2. ON FEBRUARY 21, IN PORTO ABEGRE AIRPORT, FEDERAL DEPUTY CLOVIS STENZEL STATED TO O GLOBO REPORTER HIS CONVICTION THERE WOULD BE NO "DEMOCRATIC OPENING" IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE AND IA-5 WOULD REMAIN IN EFFECT. DEPUTY ALSO LAMBASTED "POLITICAL LIBERALS" FOR THEIR FANCIFUL DREAMS OF PENDING CHANGE IN PRESENT POLITICAL SYSTEM. SUCH CHANGE, HE CLAIMED, WOULD BRING TO A HALT BRAZIL'S CONTINUED ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GROWTH.

3. HIS COMMENTS, FEATURED IN O GLOBO NEXT DAY, PROVOKED WAVE OF PROTEST FROM POLITICAL CLASS. EARLY CHALLENGER WAS SENATOR TARSO DUTRA (ARENA-RGS) WHO

Declassified Authority: 23235
By: Dorothy Johnson Date:
07-26-2012

~~SECRET~~

NW#: 23235

DocId: 442266

SANITIZED COPY
SENSITIVE
INFORMATION DELETED



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

~~SECRET~~

PAGE 02 BRASIL 00706 022140Z

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NW 969033

FIRMLY ANNOUNCED "ESTABLISHMENT OF FULL DEMOCRACY NOT ONLY PROMISE BY PRESIDENT TO PEOPLE, BUT IT INVOLVES CONSTITUTION WHOSE EXCEPTIONAL SECTIONS TRANSITORY." OTHER ARENA AND MDB POLITICIANS JOINED IN ATTACKING STENZEL'S COMMENTS AS "INOPPORTUNE, INACCURATE AND IRRESPONSIBLE". CANTIDIO SAMPAIO (ARENA-SP), IMPORTANT AND INFLUENTIAL VICE LEADER IN THE CHAMBER, SAID STENZEL HAD EXPRESSED PERSONAL OPINIONS WHICH REFLECTED NEITHER POSITION OF ARENA NOR GOVERNMENT. HE ADDED "POLITICAL OPENING" WOULD OCCUR IN DUE TIME BUT CAUTIONED IT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY COME "AS MANY WOULD LIKE SINCE IT NOT POSSIBLE FOR 18TH CENTURY DEMOCRATIC MODEL TO BE REVIVED" GIVEN PRESENT BRAZILIAN REALITY.

4. UNDAUNTED BY OVERWHELMING CRITICISM AND FACT NO ONE CAME PUBLICLY TO HIS DEFENSE, STENZEL AGAIN REITERATED HIS VIEWS AT WEEK'S END, CLARIFYING THIS TIME HIS OPINIONS WERE PERSONAL.

FOIA (b) (1) STATE

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE OUTSPOKEN STENZEL CLAIMED HE WAS VOICING PRIVATE OPINION, [REDACTED] HE ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE GOB. INDEED, THIS THESIS ALSO REFLECTED BY JORNAL DO BRASIL COLUMNIST CARLOS CASTELLO BRANCO IN COLUMN WHICH POINTED OUT THAT IN SPITE OF POLITICIANS' PROTEST, THOSE WHO REALLY COUNTED HAD NOT REPUDIATED STENZEL'S STATEMENTS, THUS INDICATING CONTINUANCE OF THE PRESENT SITUATION. FURTHERMORE, STENZEL KNOWN TO HAVE CLOSE PERSONAL ASSOCIATIONS WITH VARIOUS MILITARY OFFICERS WHO UNDOUBTEDLY SHARE HIS VIEWS.

6. BY JUMPING TO PUBLIC DEFENSE OF "DEMOCRATIC OPENING", THE POLITICAL CLASS, AS IN THE PAST, REFLECTED ITS PREOCCUPATION WITH ITS LACK OF MEANINGFUL ROLE IN PRESENT POLITICAL STRUCTURE. MANY POLITICIANS DESPERATELY HOPE THAT MEANS TO EFFECT CHANGE IS THROUGH WHAT VAGUELY REFERRED TO AS "DEMOCRATIC OPENING". ALTHOUGH CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC OF "DEMOCRATIC OPENING" WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO BE RAISED, IT UNLIKELY THAT REVOCATION IA-5 OR OTHER CONCESSIONS IMMINENT. GP2

CLEVELAND

~~SECRET~~

NW#: 23235

DocId: 442266

SANITIZED COPY
SENSITIVE
INFORMATION DELETED