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May 14, 1962

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AMERICAN EMBASSY

MAY 18 1962

BRASILIA, BRAZIL

Brazilian Elections 1962 - Report No. 1 Preliminary Information

This is the first of a series of despatches presenting basic information and analyses pertaining to Brazil's congressional, gubernatorial and municipal elections scheduled for October 7, 1962. On the theory that "you can't tell the players without a score card" and in the knowledge that many of the present incumbents in the federal congress and in key state and municipal positions will run for re-election to their present posts or for others, early despatches in this series will treat of the composition of the present Chamber of Deputies, Senate and key state governments. In addition, basic information on the complicated Brazilian election system will be discussed as will be any changes in the "rules of the game" which may come about with the proposed increase in the number of federal deputies from 325 to 404 or other unusual measures.

As election campaigning waxes wane the emphasis of the despatches in this series will shift from basic information to current developments, in particular to the issues and the candidates involved. Special attention will be given to key races (Pernambuco, Guanabara, S&B Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul) and those involving strongly anti-American and pro-Communist candidates and issues which bear upon the Alliance for Progress and relations between the United States and Brazil.

A second despatch series, termed "Election Highlights", will also be instituted. This will be a weekly summary of current election developments throughout the country. It will be based upon information from all available sources with special reliance upon weekly reports from the Consulates and other observation posts throughout Brazil. It will be continued through the October 7 elections.

The following preliminary information relating to the elections and the Embassy's reporting approach is transmitted as enclosures to this present despatch:

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Enclosure No. 1 - A listing of all Brazilian elections scheduled for October 7, 1962;

Enclosure No. 2 - A listing of significant dates related to the elections and to electoral procedures;

Enclosure No. 3 - A discussion of biographic categories which will be used by the Embassy, the Brasilia Office and by US Consulates throughout Brazil to classify opinion leaders, politicians and candidates involved in the coming elections.

Early despatches in this series which are now on the drawing boards include the following:

1. Election Issues
2. The Brazilian Electorate, 1962
3. Brazilian Election Mechanics--The Proportional Representation System
4. An Analysis of the Present Brazilian Chamber of Deputies
5. An Analysis of the Brazilian Senate

And in the State series are the following:

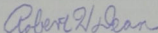
6. The Pre-campaign Situation in Ceara'
7. The Pre-campaign Situation in Maranhão
8. The Pre-campaign Situation in Rio Grande do Norte
9. The Pre-campaign Situation in Alagoas

All Brazilian States will eventually be covered. Despatches in the State series will be co-ordinated to the greatest extent possible with the Consulates concerned. Many of them will originate in the Consulates and

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the Consulates General. It is the Embassy's intention to encourage, supplement where necessary, and place into the country-wide picture reporting from the Consular posts. Co-ordination with the Brasilia office will be constant and close.

For the Ambassador:

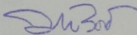


Robert U. Dean
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosures:

As stated.

APPROVED:



Niles W. Bond
Deputy Chief of Mission

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BRAZILIAN ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 7, 1962

1. The entire federal Chamber of Deputies (326 seats, which may be expanded to over 400.)
 2. Two-thirds of the Federal Senate (42 of 63 seats, i.e., those elected in 1954 whose 8-year terms expire this year.) In addition a special seat left vacant by the death of Senator Francisco Benjamin Gallotti. However, little interest is being shown in this contest because the Gallotti mandate will terminate on January 31, 1963, and his seat will again be contested in the October elections.
 3. Ten State governors, as follows:
 - Amazonas *
 - Piauí
 - Ceará
 - Pernambuco
 - Sergipe
 - Bahia
 - Espírito Santo
 - Rio de Janeiro
 - São Paulo
 - Rio Grande do Sul *
- *In all of these States, except Amazonas and Rio Grande do Sul, elections include the vice-governor's as well as the governor's post. In Amazonas and Rio Grande do Sul, whose constitutions do not provide for the post of vice-governor, the next in line for succession to the governorship is the head of the state legislative assembly.
4. State Legislative Assemblies in twenty of Brazil's twenty-one states. The only exception is Brazil's newest State of Guanabara, formerly the Federal District including the city of Rio de Janeiro, whose governor and state legislature were elected in 1960 for four-year terms at the time of Brazil's last presidential elections.
 5. In addition, elections for mayors and municipal councilmen will take place in all or some of the municipalities in seventeen states, as follows:

Municipal Elections *

States	Mayoralty Elections	Municipal Council Elections	Total Number of Municipalities
Para	56	56	60
Maranhão	12	102	102
Piauí	71	71	83
Ceará	142	142	142
Rio Grande do Norte	50	61	85
Sergipe	62	62	62
Alagoas	0	69	69
Bahia	233	233	233
Espirito Santo	40	40	40
Rio de Janeiro	62	62	62
São Paulo	76	65	501
Paraná	4	13	242
Santa Catarina	5	14	105
Minas Gerais	486	486	486
Mato Grosso	51	52	64
Paraíba	88	88	149
Goiás	0	105	180

*This schedule of municipal elections was obtained directly from Brazil's Superior Electoral Tribunal on May 4, 1962. It differs significantly from municipal election lists reported in the Brazilian press, which were based on an inaccurate press release issued prematurely.

6. Elections will also be held for justices of the peace in the States of Minas Gerais and Mato Grosso, the only two Brazilian states where these positions are elective. In all other states these justices are appointed.

Important Election Dates

June 28, 1962 (6:00 pm) - Period of voter registration ends.

July 7 - Electoral campaign period opens officially. By this date governors, state cabinet officers, military commandants, federal and state magistrates, and state attorneys general who desire to run for election to the Federal Senate or Chamber of Deputies must resign from their posts in order to be eligible.

July 30 - Inscription of voters in each electoral zone will be terminated and the total number inscribed will be proclaimed.

Aug. 7 - Beginning of the period in which radio stations "will divulge free of charge election instructions, day, hour and location of meetings." By this date governors, secretaries of state, and chiefs of police who desire to run for election to the state legislative assemblies must resign from their posts to be eligible.

Sept. 8 - (6:00 pm) - End of period for registration of candidates.

Sept. 17 - End of period when a candidate may cancel his registration.

Sept. 22 - Beginning of period during which candidates may not be arrested or detained except in case of flagrante delicto.

Sept. 27 - Date on which the names of the candidates registered are to be published.

Oct. 2 - Date which marks the beginning of the period extending until 48 hours after the election during which voters may not be arrested or detained except in flagrante delicto or as the result of a criminal sentence for a crime for which bail is not allowed.

Oct. 5 - (7:00 am) - Date which marks the end of the electoral campaign by means of radio (and TV), meetings or public gatherings.

Oct. 7 - ELECTION DAY

Nov. 7 - End of official period of vote counting in voting districts (after which the official returns will be announced).

Nov. 21 - End of period during which supplementary elections may be held (in those districts where it can be demonstrated that a sufficient number of votes were cancelled or voters prevented from voting to make a difference in the electoral coefficient of any party or the classification of any candidate).

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DISCUSSION OF BIOGRAPHIC CATEGORIES

1. Communists or crypto-Communists. Includes those who can be identified with reasonable certainty (90% or better) as Communist Party members or evidently committed to Marxist-Leninist ideology and, in effect, subject to Communist Party discipline.
2. Fellow-travellers or useful innocents. Includes the extreme leftists and the dupes who consistently follow the lead of the Communists.
3. Leftist ultra-nationalists. Although nationalist sentiment can be found to varying degrees in all seven categories, this category is reserved for the extreme nationalists who are consistently leftist and anti-American in outlook, but who do not consistently follow the Communist lead.
4. Non-Communist radical reformers. The all-important but often difficult to discern water-shed comes between this category and those preceding it. This category includes those Brazilians who see the need for basic reforms and who are prepared to fight politically to achieve such reform, but who are not Communists. They may cooperate at times with the Communists and be nationalistic and critical of certain US policies, but they do not systematically attack the US or foreign interests generally. In most instances they are prepared to accept US assistance to carry out the desired reforms, if provided in a manner that would not offend their national pride or concept of Brazilian sovereign interests.
5. Centrists. Includes the liberals and mildly reformists--those who advocate the preservation and extension of democratic procedures, improved education, housing and public welfare, and the elimination of corruption in government and business practices. It also includes many of the laborites who desire improved conditions for the workers but do not have their hearts in basic reforms even though they may pay lip service to them. The strongly reformist labor leaders should be placed in Category 4, and the pro-Communist and ultra-nationalist labor leaders in 1, 2, or 3.
6. Conservatives. Those who tend to resist change, including many of the industrialists, large landowners and entrenched political bosses.
7. Rightist extremists. Those who would lead or at least welcome a right wing dictatorship in Brazil. Includes some of the more reactionary of the elements listed in Category 6 as well as unreconstructed members of Brazil's Integralist (fascist) group and the negatively anti-Communists who stand for nothing else.
8. Others. To be used sparingly and accompanied by an explanation in each case.

See Note page 2.

Note: This system of classification is admittedly imperfect. The categories overlap somewhat and are not necessarily mutually exclusive. Political opportunists and various degrees of nationalists can be found in almost all categories. Yet, these categories do have applicability in Brazil and are useful from the US point of view. Applied with reasonable uniformity by US observation posts throughout Brazil, they should provide a more useful yardstick for analysis than do party labels, which often mean little or nothing given the great regional and ideological variations within Brazilian political parties.

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