

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

INCOMING AMEMBASSY BRASILIA DEF-6

ACTION

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TO RUEOJFA/DIA
INFO RULPAL/USCINCSO (J-2)
RULPAK/USARSO (G-2)
RUEAOWD/OACSI, DA
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
RUESUP/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
RUESEI/AMCONSUL RECIFE
ZEN/AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE UNN
DA GRNC
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1. (S) PRELIMINARY MOVES ALREADY UNDERWAY IN WHAT PROMISES TO BE AVALANCHE OF EXPECTED PROMOTIONS AND ROUTINE AND NOT-SO-ROUTINE ASSIGNMENT. UNLEASHING OF STRENGTH EXPECTED FOLLOWING 25 MARCH GENERAL OFFICER PROMOTIONS IN ARMY. EARLY RETURNS OF POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT GAME OF MUSCICAL CHAIRS SHOW FIVE COMPLETED ACTIONS INVOLVING CATALYTIC FOUR-STAR AREA. TWO OF THESE INVOLVE SUPERIOR MILITARY TRIBUNAL WHERE ONE ACTUAL AND ONE POTENTIAL VACANCY CREATED THROUGH FORCED RETIREMENT OF GEN. PERI BEVILAQUA UNDER INSTITUTIONAL ACT NO. 5 AND REQUEST FOR SIX MONTHS' LEAVE ON PART OF GEN. OLYMPIO MOURAO. LETTER'S ACTION NOT QUITE VOLUNTARY SINCE ALTERNATIVE WAS FORCED RETIREMENT. MOURAO EXPECTED TO REQUEST ANOTHER SIX MONTHS' LEAVE UPON TERMINATION OF CURRENT ABSENCE, THUS TAKING HIM UP TO 1970 STATUTORY RETIREMENT DATE. MEANWHILE, LAW ALLOWS PRESIDENT TO NAME ANOTHER 4-STAR GENERAL TO THE TEMPORARILY VACANT BILLET, WHICH COULD MEAN EASING ANOTHER GENERAL OUT OF ACTIVE ARMY WITH CONCOMITANT CREATION OF ANOTHER 4-STAR VACANCY. ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF GEN. ADALBERTO PEREIRA DOS SANTOS HAS BEEN NAMED TO TAKE GEN. BEVILAQUA'S TRIBUNAL VACANCY. THE FOURTH HIGH-LEVEL ACTION TAKEN WAS THE STATUTORY (AGE) RETIREMENT OF 2ND ARMY COMMANDER GEN. LISBOA. IN A FIFTH MOVE, GEN. RAPHAEL DE SOUZA AGUIAR, DIRECTOR OF ARMY SUPPLY, HAS BEEN ASSIGNED

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AS MILITARY ADVIER TO THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK, THUS CREATING A PROMOTION VACANCY THROUGH THE ASSIGNEMTN OF AN ACTIVE DUTY GENERAL OFFICE TO A NON-ARMY BILLET.

2. (C) THE OUTLOOK FOR NEXT TUESDAY'S PROMOTIONS

A. TO FOUR-STARS: GENERALS AUGUSTO CESAR ARAGAO, JOSE CANAVARRO PEREIRA, AND EMILIO GARRASTUZU MDICI.

B. TO MAJOR GENERAL: GENERALS SYLVIO COUTO DA FROTA, RAMIRO TAVARES GONCALVES, REYNALDO MELLO DE ALMEIDA, EDNARDO D'AVILA MELLO, HENRIQUE CARLOS DE ASSUMPcao CARDOSO, AND LAURO ALVES PINTO.

C. TO BRIGADIER GENERAL: COLONELS HUGO DE ANDRADE ABREU, WALTER PIRES DE CARVALHO E ALGUQUERQUE, ERNANI AYROSA DA SILVA, ANTONIO CARLOS DE ANDRADA SERPA, JOAO BPATISTA DE OLIVERIA FIGUEIREDO, AND POSSIBLY THREE OTHERS.

3. (C) SPECULATION ON NEW ASSIGNMENTS IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. GEN. FRAGOSO - FROM SUPERIOR WAR SCHOOL TO PRESIDENCY OF JOINT BRAZIL-US MILITARY COMMISSION.

B. GEN BRAGA - FROM 3RD ARMY TO ARMY SUPPLY DEPT. OR SUPERIOR MILITARY TRIBUNAL.

C. GEN MURICY - FROM CHIEF OF ARMY PERSONNEL TO CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY.

D. GEN. ARAGAO - FROM DIRECTOR OF REMOUNT TO COMMANDER OF 3RD ARMY.

E. GEN. CANAVARRO - FROM DIRECTOR OF ORDINANCE TO COMMANDER OF 2ND ARMY.

F. GEN. AFFLONSO ALGUQUERQUE LIMA - FROM UNASSIGNED TO DIRECTOR OF ORDINANCE.

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G. GEN. NEWTON REIS - FROM SUB-CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF
TO SUB-CHIEF OF JOINT STAFF (NEW BILLET)

H. GEN. JOSE CAMPOS ARAGAO - FROM COMMANDER
5TH REGION TO COMMANDANT ARMY STAFF SCHOOL.

I. GEN. RAMIRO GONCALVES - FROM ARMORED
DIVISION TO 4TH MILITARY REGION.

J. GEN. REYNALDO DE ALMEIDA - FROM
ARMY STAFF SCHOOL TO COMMAND
OF 5TH REGION.

K. GEN. D' AVILA MELLO - FROM MILITARY ATTACHE,
WASHINGTON TO BRASILIA MILITARY COMMAND.

L. GEN. ASSUMPCAO CARDOSO - FROM CHIEF OF STAFF,
1ST ARMY, TO DIRECTOR OF REMOUNT.

M. GEN. NEWTON FERREIRA - FROM ARMY MATERIAL
TO COMMAND OF ENGINEER GROUP IN NORTHEAST.

N GEN. OBINO ALVARES - FROM EXECUTIVE TO ARMY
CHIEF OF STAFF TO ARMY TRAINING DIRECTORATE.

O. GEN. ARGUS LIMA - FROM THIRD ARMY TO
COMMAND OF 1ST INF. BRIGADE AT VILA MILITAR.

P. GEN. CARLOS ALBERTO CABRAL RIBERIRO - FROM
COMMAND OF 2ND BRIGADE AT NITEROR TO COMMAND OF
2ND DIV. INFANTRY AT CACAPAVA, SAO PAULO.

4. (6) SOME THE UPCOMING SIFTS ARE OF LITTLE
CONSEQUENCE. MOST, HOWEVER, HAVE DEEP POLITICAL
MEANING. BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND ARMY MINISTER LYRA
TAVARES WILL BE REMOVING MUCH OF THE POTENTIAL FOR
POLITICO-MILITARY MISCHIEF WITH THE NEW ASSIGNMENTS
FOR GENERALS MONIZ DE ARAGAO, AFFONSO, RAMIRO
GONCALVES, ASSUMPCAO CARDOSO, AND CARLOS ALBRTO.

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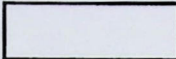
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COMMENT: (S) THE CHANGES MENTIONED HERE ARE BUT A FRACTION OF THOSE THAT WILL OCCUR IN THE WEEKS AHEAD. IN THE PROCESS, COSTA E SILVA WILL STRENGTHEN HIS HAND WITHOUT OFFENDING THE SENSITIVITIES OF THOSE TRANSFERRED, SINCE HE IS MAKING THE CHANGES ON THE BASIS OF SENIORITY, PROMOTION, OR TIME IN A PARTICULAR ASSIGNMENT. EVERY INDICATION POINTS TO THE CLOSEST COORDINATION AND MEETING OF THE MINDS BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND HIS ARMY MINISTER.

GROUP-3.

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