



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Rio de Janeiro

January 25, 1969

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OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

Jack B. Kubisch, Esquire  
Country Director  
ARA/LA/BR  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Jack:

We had a quiet dinner at home on the 23rd with the Mario Gibsons and the Paulo Nogueiras, which provided an opportunity for a long and relaxed chat. We didn't cover a great many items that are worth reporting, but we did talk over in some depth the state of U.S.-Brazilian relations in the light of the Institutional Act. Gibson feels things are going along very nicely at the moment, and hopes nothing will happen that will make the United States feel that it has to say something critical of the Brazilian Government. Nogueira enthusiastically seconded this. As you know, we keep hearing the same thing on all sides from responsible people who are aware of the realities of Brazilian-American relations.

I mentioned the problems we will have if Brazilian pressure mounts on us to deliver the \$50 million Tranche in the face of public and Congressional opposition. I jokingly suggested they help me draft a public announcement which would help make the \$50 million payment acceptable to the American people and still not make the Brazilian Government mad. They both acknowledged the difficulty of the problem but neither volunteered any ideas on how it could be solved.

Gibson's much greater concern is with aircraft and naval vessels. He foresees real problems on those items and thinks they will be the major difficulties he must face during his first months on the job in Washington.

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The Gibsons are at this moment planning to leave here by Varig for New York on the night of February 5, with the intention of proceeding right on to Washington.

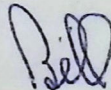
Incidentally, Mrs. Gibson has turned out to be something of a surprise to us. She has a pinched-faced, sourpuss look about her which, combined with what I think is a natural shyness, causes her to be easily misunderstood as a rather disagreeable and unattractive woman. This was our initial impression which has now completely changed. She turns out to be very pleasant, intelligent, and a woman of considerable charm and conversational ability. She is a poet with a couple of books to her credit under her pen name of Yolanda Jordão, and is, I am told, also a pianist of some quality.

Paulo Nogueira will be leaving Itamarity in March, having been assigned to Bonn as Minister Counselor.

Çelso Deniz, the last time I saw him, told me that he was planning to leave for Washington in late February. However, in Pomona Politis' column recently there was a brief and rather archly worded comment that it was a pity he was having to postpone his departure. Itamarity is having its own little purge right now and it well may be, in view of his reputation, that he is running into trouble. I will keep you informed on that one as information develops.

Best regards.

Sincerely,



William Belton  
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

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