



CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONTROL: 1923

DATE: Mar. 20, 1971  
0900

INDICATE:

- COLLECT
- CHARGE TO

AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO

POL-15-MEDICI

DISTRIBUTION

AMB  
DCM  
MINECON  
POL-2  
POL/R  
USIE  
ECON  
DAO-3  
MILGP-2  
SCI  
FILES

ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO: AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMCONGEN SAO PAULO  
USCINCO FOR POLAD  
RIO DE JANEIRO 1923

1. "SUPPORTERS" OF GEN AFFONSO ALBUQUERQUE LIMA ORGANIZED A FAREWELL DINNER ON MARCH 17 TO MARK HIS FORCED RETIREMENT FROM ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY EFFECTIVE MARCH 15. AFFONSO'S SPEECH WAS VERY CRITICAL OF PRESENT GOVT LEADERSHIP EMPHASIZING THAT THE 1964 REVOLUTION HAD LOST ITS ORIGINAL AIMS. HE EXPRESSED EXTREME BITTERNESS FOR WAY IN ~~WHICH~~ WHICH HE WAS REMOVED FROM ACTIVE DUTY. ALTHOUGH AN ORIGINAL SUPPORTER OF IA-5, HE ATTACKED ITS CONTINUATION REFERRING TO IT AS "AN INSTRUMENT FOR THE PERMANENT INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF A DICTATORSHIP."
2. ONLY NEWSPAPER TO PUBLISH FULL TEXT OF AFFONSO'S HARD-HITTING SPEECH WAS "ESTAKO DE SAO PAULO". THIS APPARENTLY WAS DONE IN VIOLATION OF SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO

DRAFTED BY:

POL:RAKohn:vrs

DRAFTING DATE

3-19-71

TEL. EXT.

444

APPROVED BY:

DCM:Min. Boonstra

CLEARANCES:

POL:WGWalker

DAO:Col. Moura (in draft)

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- 2 -

INDICATE:

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ACTION:

print any news concerning the CONTROVERTIAL FORMER

MININTERIOR. THERE ARE RUMORS THAT IRATE SECTORS OF GOB AND MILITARY CIRCLES MAY TAKE RETALIATORY ACTION AGAINST THE ESP.

3. WHILE PRESS ACOOUNTS SPEAK OF 500 IN ATTENDANCE, RELIABLE EMBASSY SOURCE WHO ATTENDED DINNER REPORTS THAT REAL FIGURE WAS APPROXIMATELY 200. HE WAS MORE IMPRESSED WITH NUMBER OF AFFONSO<sup>U</sup>ISTAS NOT PRESENT THAN WITH "UNKNOWNNS" WHO RISKED GOVT PIQUE TO ATTEND. ACCORDING TO SOURCE THERE WAS ONLY ONE ACTIVE DUTY GENERAL AND SEVERAL COLONELS PRESENT AND FEW PROMINENT CIVILIAN FIGURES. HE DESCRIBED THE PREVAILING ATMOSPHERE AS AKIN TO A SCENE FROM VISCONTI'S SURREALISTIC FILM "THE DAMNED".

4. EMBASSY IS POUCHING FULL TRANSLATED TEXT OF AFFONSO'S SPEECH. AIRGRAM TO FOLLOW.

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