

TELEGRAM

INCOMING AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

POL BRAZIL/USG

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAO PAULO 2763

SUBJECT: REPORTS BRAZILIAN MILITARY CONFIDENT U.S. SUPPORT

1. SANTOS MAYOR-ELECT ESMERALDO TARQUINIO TOLD CONGEN OFFICER DECEMBER 21 THAT BRAZILIAN MILITARY MEN ARE SPREADING REPORTS THAT U.S. MILITARY MEN FULLY SUPPORT EXTRAORDINARY ACTION BEIN TAKEN FIGHT SUBVERSION IN BRAZIL. THEY ALLEGING ASSURANCES WERE GIVEN DURING RECENT INTER-AMERICIN MILITARY CONFERENCE RIO DE JANEIRO. TARQUINIO BELIEVES STORIES BEING SPREAD TO BUILD MILITARY MORALE AND DEMORALIZE OPPOSITION.

2. BRAZILIAN ARMY MAJOR TOLD CONGEN LOCAL EMPLOYEE THAT BRAZILIAN MILITARY MEN CONFIDENT OF U.S. UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT DESPITE ANY PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY U.S. "CIVILIANS."

3. SIMILAR ATTITUDES WERE EXPRESSED TO CONGEN OFFICER IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS BY EXTREME HARD-LINE AIR FORCE OFFICERS LT. COLONEL JULIO VALENTE, CHIEF LEGAL DEPARTMENT 4TH AIR ZONE, AND MAJOR FRANCISCO RENATO DE MELLO, INTELLIGENCE CHIEF 4TH AIR ZONE. THESE OFFICERS APPEARED HARBOR NO DOUBTS THAT U.S. WOULD FULLY SUPPORT MEASURES TAKEN UNDER IA-5. THEY DISCOUNTED PRESS ACCOUNTS THAT U.S. OFFICIALS PRIVATELY UNAPPY OVER EVENTS IN BRAZIL AS FABRICATIONS LEFT LEANING U.S. NEWS MEDIA. THEY SEEMED REMAIN UNCONVINCED WHEN CONGEN OFFICER SAID U.S.G. UNHAPPY OVER SITUATION IN BRAZIL.

4. COMMENT: CONGEN CURIOUS AS WHETHER INSTANCES MENTIONED PARAGRAPHS ONE AND TWO ABOVE ARE ISOLATED INSTANCES OR WHETHER THEY REPRESENT PART OF EFFORT TO REASSURE MILITARY CONTINUED U.S. SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING. CLEARLY, WITH REFERENCE IA-5, HARD-LINERS SUCH AS MAJOR DE MELLO AND COL. VALENTE APPEAR CONSIDER IT AS PANACEA FOR BRAZIL'S PROBLEMS.

~~RRRRI~~ GP-4 CORRIGAN

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