



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

Executive Registry
75-9978

C-102-75/AH

9 December 1975

LTC Vernon A. Walters, USA  
Deputy Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

*W*  
*27 Jan 76*

Dear Dick,

You may have missed the attached two papers on Brazil; the sum is that the U.S. is losing its friends there. This is tragic; I think that in the years to come Brazil will be even more important to us than ever before.

I am going to Brazil, among other places, following the Army Attache Conference in Panama in January. Although I have no personal Brazilian connections, perhaps the name might kindle some friendly memories in Brazil. I would be glad to call upon any one you might suggest in an attempt to exploit old ties and thus maintain the U.S. friendship/leadership/stroking contacts.

I will be in DATT hands for the routine type protocol visits, I assume with J-2. Are there others calls which I should make on a personal basis? or an official basis? If so, on whom? I solicit your assistance - but only if you think it is worth the drill.

In the meantime, Dick, Kitty and I send our best wishes for a happy Christmas Season.

Warmly,

W. D. CRITTENBERGER, JR.  
Major General, USA  
Deputy Director for Attaches  
and Human Resources

2 Enclosures:

1. Msg, DTG 141957Z Nov 75  
(C)
2. IR 6 809 0350 75, dtd  
29 Oct 75 (C)

JCS review(s) completed.

DIA review(s) completed.

When Removal of Enclosures This  
Document is Complete Classified

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MESSAGE CENTER

*Handwritten initials/signature*

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ACTION J5(02)

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(007)EX CY: CJCS-1 (8) 18NOV75/WL

ADDED DIST: J3-4 DIA-10 CSA-1 CNO-1 CSAF-1 CMC-6(29) 25NOV75

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TO JCS WASHINGTON DC

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

FOR J-5, GENERAL SPRAGINS SENDS.

SUBJ: US LEADERSHIP POSITION BRAZIL (U)

1. (U) ON 7 NOV I MAILED A LETTER TO GENERAL ELDER HIGHLIGHTING THE ACTIVITIES AND MY IMPRESSIONS OF THE US DELEGATION, JBUSMC, DURING THE PRECEDING THREE MONTHS. ON PAGE TWO OF THAT LETTER I MENTIONED BRAZIL'S EXAMINATION OF OPTIONS WHICH COULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF REDUCING US INFLUENCE AND DIMINISHING THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR ARMED FORCES. SUBSEQUENT TO THIS I RECEIVED COPIES OF TWO INTELLIGENCE REPORTS THAT ARE VERY GERMANE TO THIS THOUGHT AND WRITTEN WITHIN A WEEK OF MY LETTER BY ATTACHE SOURCES.

2. (C) THE IR'S ARE NUMBERS 6 809 350 75 AND 6 809 358 75. THE MAJOR PARTS OF THE TEXTS ARE QUOTED BELOW FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

A. (C) LAST NIGHT SOURCE MADE APOLOGY FOR LACK OF "OLD TIME" BRAZILIAN FRIENDSHIPS AND SAID IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT RO HAD TO ARRIVE IN BRAZIL WHEN BRAZIL-U.S. RELATIONS WERE SO DIFFICULT. IN AN EFFORT TO ELICIT MORE INFORMATION I TOLD HIM I HAD NOTICED SOME STRANGE ATTITUDES FROM OTHER THAN OLD FRIENDS. HE THEN EXPRESSED THE FOLLOWING: (1) THE US GOVERNMENT HAS NOT BEEN FORTHCOMING IN EITHER THE MILITARY (EQUIPMENT AND AIRCRAFT) OR NUCLEAR ARENA, (2) US POLITICAL WAVERING HAS NOT SHOWN THE GREATEST STABILITY, (3) COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, ETC., IN THE ECONOMIC AREA HAVE BEEN UPSETTING, (4) BRAZIL MUST DEVELOP OTHER MARKETS FOR EXPORTS, AND (5) THE US HAS NOT EXHIBITED THE FRIENDSHIP AND CONCERN FOR BRAZIL AT THE HIGHER LEVELS THAT IT USED TO SHOW. AS USUAL HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE US WAS BEING INFILTRATED BY COMMUNISTS WHICH WAS MANIFESTED BY STRIKES AND STUDENT TURBULENCE. COMMENTS: (C) THE LATTER CONCERN (5) SEEMS TO BE THE MOST IMPURANT. BRAZILIANS ARE MOST EMOTIONAL ABOUT FRIENDSHIP. LTG WALTERS, CIA, AS ATTACHE OFTEN COMMENTED THAT FLATTERY AND ATTENTION DID MORE FOR US-BRAZIL RELATIONS THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE FACTOR. ANOTHER SIDE ISSUE WITH

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BRAZILIAN OFFICERS HAS BEEN WHAT THEY CONSIDER US OVER-REACTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES. THEY BELIEVE THAT BRAZIL'S HISTORICAL CORRUPTION, SUBVERSION, AND URBAN CRIME CALL FOR SPECIAL SECURITY MEASURES AND THE US SHOULD UNDERSTAND.

B. (C) AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME, RO HAD A SIMILAR CONVERSATION IN RIO DE JANEIRO DURING WHICH SOURCES STATED THAT THERE IS A WIDELY ACCEPTED BELIEF WITHIN THE BRAZILIAN ARMY OFFICER CORPS THAT THE US CAN NO LONGER BE COUNTED ON TO DEFEND THE INTERESTS OF ITS TRADITIONAL ALLIES. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE DEPTH OF THIS FEELING, SOURCE STATED THAT MOST ARMY OFFICERS HELD THIS VIEW. HE SAID THAT AS A RESULT, BRAZIL HAD DECIDED THAT IT MUST MAKE ITS OWN WAY IN SUCH AREAS AS TRADE, ENERGY AND WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT. COMMENT: (C) FOR MONTHS, RO HAS HEARD REMARKS FROM BRAZILIAN ARMY OFFICERS, SOME OF WHOM HAVE SERVED IN THE US, REGISTERING THEIR PERPLEXITY OVER SUCH THINGS AS THE US LACK OF WILL TO WIN IN VIETNAM, WATERGATE, INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, AND ACTIONS BY SOME MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND CONGRESS WHO APPEAR DETERMINED TO GIVE IN TO THE COMMUNISTS AT EVERY TURN. RO HAS NOT UNTIL NOW, HOWEVER, HEARD THE CHARGE THAT THE US HAS LOST ITS LEADERSHIP POSITION STATED SO UNEQUIVOCALLY. SOURCE IS A FRIEND OF MORE THAN TEN YEARS. HE IS VERY WELL DISPOSED TOWARD THE US AND APPEARED RELUCTANT TO PASS ON HIS OBSERVATIONS.

3. (C) I AM MAILING A LETTER TO THE CHAIRMAN, JCS, IN REFERENCE TO SOME OF THE INITIATIVES I ALLUDED TO IN MY LETTER TO GENERAL ELDER. HE SHOULD RECEIVE IT THE WEEK OF 24 NOVEMBER. INCLUDED ARE AN INVITATION TO BRAZILIAN CHAIRMAN, JCS, TO VISIT USA AND THE OFFERING OF A SPACE AT THE ARMED FORCES STAFF COLLEGE. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE AND WHEN MY LETTER ARRIVES, ATTACH A COPY OF THIS MESSAGE OR THE IRIS TO SHOW, IN FACT, THAT OUR POSITION IN BRAZIL IS SLIPPING. HOPEFULLY, THIS WILL HELP EMPHASIZE THAT SOME ACTIONS WILL BE NECESSARY TO TURN THE TIDE BEFORE IT GETS OUT OF HAND.

GDS 31 DEC 81.

BT

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ANNOTES

TJ HES

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(Classification and Control Markings)

1. COUNTRY: BRAZIL

2. SUBJECT: (U) Army Attitude Toward U.S.A.

3. ISC NUMBER:

4. DATE OF INFORMATION: 28 October 1975

5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: Brasilia, 28 Oct. 75

6. EVALUATION: SOURCE B INFORMATION 2

7. SOURCE: 6 809 0032

8. REPORT NUMBER: 6 809 0350 75

9. DATE OF REPORT: 29 October 1975

10. NO. OF PAGES: 2

11. REFERENCES: Initiative DIOP PG 2250

12. ORIGINATOR: USDAO BRAZIL

13. PREPARED BY: *Jack J. Gardner*  
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14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: *John K. Giles*  
 JOHN K. GILES  
 Colonel, USAF  
 Defense Attache

15. SUMMARY:

This IR forwards information on present Brazilian Army attitudes toward the UNITED STATES.

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(C) Last night source made apology for lack of "old time" Brazilian friendships and said it was unfortunate that RO had to arrive in BRAZIL when BRAZIL-U.S. relations were so difficult. In an effort to elicit more information I told him I had noticed some strange attitudes from other than old friends. He then expressed the following: (1) The U.S. government has not been forthcoming in either the military (equipment and aircraft) or nuclear arena (2) U.S. political wavering has not shown the greatest stability (3) countervailing duties etc. in the economic area have been upsetting (4) BRAZIL must develop other markets for exports and (5) the U.S. has not exhibited the friendship and concern for BRAZIL at the higher levels that it used to show. As usual he expressed concern that the U.S. was being infiltrated by communists which was manifested by strikes and student turbulence.

16. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR:

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 193D INF BD  
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17. DOWNGRADING DATA:

Classified by the DATT  
 SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS.  
 DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DEC 1981

18. ATTACHMENT DATA:

None

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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REPORT NO. 6 809 0350 75  
PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES  
ORIGINATOR USDAO BRAZIL

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COMMENT: (C) The latter concern (5) seems to be the most important. Brazilians are most emotional about friendship. LTC WALTERS, CIA, as attache often commented that flattery and attention did more for U.S.-BRAZIL relations than any other single factor. Another side issue with Brazilian officers has been what they consider U.S. over reaction to human rights issues. They believe that BRAZIL's historical corruption, subversion, and urban crime calls for special security measures and the U.S. should understand.

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