

**November 12, 1962**

**Telegram from the Brazilian Delegation at the  
United Nations General Assembly, New York, 7 p.m.,  
Monday**

**Citation:**

"Telegram from the Brazilian Delegation at the United Nations General Assembly, New York, 7 p.m., Monday", November 12, 1962, Wilson Center Digital Archive, "ANEXO Secreto—600.(24h)—SITUAÇÃO POLITICA—CUBA—Novembro à dezembro de 1962/," Ministry of External Relations Archives, Brasilia, Brazil. Translated from Portuguese by James G. Hershberg. <https://wilson-center.drivingcreative.com/document/115378>

**Summary:**

A description of Brazil's resolution to the United Nations General Assembly regarding Cuba and the denuclearization of Latin America, as well as where the resolution stands in the Assembly thus far.

**Credits:**

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**Original Language:**

Portuguese

**Contents:**

Translation - English

## SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS

TELEGRAM

RECEIVED

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FROM THE DELEGATION OF BRAZIL AT THE XVII SESSION OF THE GENERAL-ASSEMBLY  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS-NEW YORK  
ON/12/12/XI/62

SECRET-EXTREMELY URGENT

DNU/DEA/DAS/DAC/DOr/Daf/604(04)

Denuclearization of Latin America.

600.(24h)

151 - MONDAY - 1900hs - I REQUEST TO TELEPHONE INCONTINENTE  
[sic-IMMEDIATELY?] MINISTER OF STATE OR AMBASSADOR [CARLOS] BERNARDES OR  
MINISTER GUERREIRO: TELEGRAPHIC BULLETIN 38 ADDRESSED TO THIS MISSION  
CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING: "BRAZIL MODIFIED PROPOSAL DENUCLEARIZATION  
LATIN AMERICA AND AFRICA PRESENTED IN THE LAST DAY TWENTY NINE [i.e., 29  
October 1962] GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. PRINCIPAL  
ALTERNATION WAS CIRCUMSCRIBED DRAFT ONLY LATIN AMERICA, EXCLUDING  
AFRICA BEYOND SMALL ALTERATIONS OF THE TEXT. BRAZILIAN DELEGATION TOOK  
THE DECISION TO ALTER DOCUMENT PRESENTED INITIALLY TO AVOID INTRODUCTION  
OF AMENDMENTS BY DELEGATIONS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, WHICH WOULD MODIFY  
ENTIRELY THE SPIRIT OF THE PROPOSAL. SOME AFRICAN COUNTRIES WOULD MAKE  
RESTRICTIONS OF THE PROPOSAL, GIVING IT TO STAND OUT FROM IT POSSIBLY SOME  
NUCLEAR ARMAMENT. FRANCE ALSO HAS AN INTEREST TO UTILIZE THE SAHARA  
DESERT AS A TESTING GROUND AND WOULD NOT ACCEPT DENUCLEARIZATION. THE  
ACTION OF THESE TWO COUNTRIES [sic-other country besides France not  
identified-trans.], WHO LEAD GROUPS IN THE UN, WOULD EVEN BRING DOWN THE  
PROPOSITION. THEREFORE IT WAS APPROPRIATE TO ELIMINATE THE PART RELATIVE  
TO AFRICA. AS FOR THE TEXT, IT HAS MODIFICATIONS IN THE SECOND PARAGRAPH  
HAVING BEEN ABOLISHED THE ITEM WHICH CALLED ON ALL MEMBER STATES TO  
ABSTAIN FROM USING TERRITORY, TERRITORIAL WATERS AND AIR SPACE OF AFRICAN  
AND LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES FOR TESTING, STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION OF  
NUCLEAR ARMS OR THEIR DELIVERY VEHICLES. THE SUPPRESSION OF THIS ITEM  
OWED PRINCIPALLY TO AN ACTION OF ARGENTINA, WHOSE MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
CONSIDERED THE ITEM RESTRICTIVE OF OTHERS, AND ALSO SOME CARIBBEAN  
COUNTRIES, NEXT TO UNITED STATES TESTING AREAS WHO USE THEIR TERRITORIAL  
WATERS AND THEIR AIR SPACE TO TRANSPORT NUCLEAR ARMAMENT TO TESTING  
GROUNDS. BRAZIL DECLARED YESTERDAY IN THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT ITS  
PROPOSAL TO DENUCLEARIZE LATIN AMERICA WAS NOT MOTIVATED BY THE CUBAN  
CRISIS. AMBASSADOR AFONSO ARINOS CHIEF OF THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION SAID  
THAT THE INTENTION OF THE BRAZILIAN INTENTION [SIC-PROPOSAL?] IS TO  
GENERALIZE INTERNATIONAL INSPECTION OF NUCLEAR ARMS. ARINOS ADDED THAT  
THE ORIGINAL BRAZILIAN DRAFT, WHICH REQUESTED TOGETHER THE  
DISATOMIZATION OF AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA AND WHOSE LAST VERSION THE  
AFRICA QUESTION WAS REDUCED TO RECORDING THAT ON TWENTY FOUR  
NOVEMBER NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY [24 November 1960] IT HAS BEEN  
RECOGNIZED BY THE ASSEMBLY THE NECESSITY TO CONSIDER THE AFRICAN  
CONTINENT A DISATOMIZED ZONE.["?-trans.] WE CONSIDER THE PUBLICATION OF  
THIS NEWS OF MAJOR GRAVITY BEING ABLE TO HAVE UNFAVORABLE REPERCUSSIONS  
IN THE GENERAL-ASSEMBLY AND TO PREJUDICE APPROVAL OF THE BRAZILIAN DRAFT  
ON DENUCLEARIZATION. THE GRAVITY OF THE MATTER IS INCREASED BY THE FACT  
THAT THE NEWS SEEMS TO BE BASED PARTIALLY ON MY TELEGRAM No 140 THAT  
TRANSMITTED INFORMATION AND COMMENTARIES OF A STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL  
CHARACTER. I TAKE EVEN THE LIBERTY TO SUGGEST THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY TO

COLLECT INFORMATION TO VERIFY IN WHAT CIRCUMSTANCE THE INFORMATION SERVICES DIVULGED THIS NEWS AND AT THE SAME TIME I ASK YOUR EXCELLENCY TO INSTRUCT IMMEDIATELY THE EMBASSIES RETRANSMISSIONS IN THE SENSE TO ELIMINATE THE BULLETIN THE PASSAGE TO WHICH I ALLUDED IN ORDER TO AVOID DIPLOMATIC DIFFICULTIES WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

AFONSO ARINOS DE MELLO FRANCO