

November 18, 1976
**Memorandum from Ambassador Figuerero to Castro
Madero**

Citation:

"Memorandum from Ambassador Figuerero to Castro Madero", November 18, 1976,
Wilson Center Digital Archive, Rodrigo Mallea Archives
<https://wilson-center.drivingcreative.com/document/121399>

Summary:

This memo, produced by the Argentine Ambassador in charge of the Scientific and Technical Affairs Division of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, alerts the Director of the Argentine Nuclear Commission Carlos Castro Madero that the new Carter administration will attempt to exert pressure on Brazil's nuclear program and hinder its nuclear deal with West Germany. It notes that regardless of Carter's nuclear policy, Brazil would "try by all means confirm its right to nuclear development."

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY)

Original Language:

Portuguese

Contents:

Translation - English

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND CULT

SECRET

MEMORANDUM 136

For information of Capt. Castro Madero - President

C.N Atomic Energy

Produced by Ambassador Figuerero

Buenos Aires, 18 November 1976

Subject: Information

The Embassy of the Republic of Brazil informs that there would be wide repercussion in the case of a confirmation that the President-elect of the United States would be willing to utilize all diplomatic means at his disposal to bring about the revocation of the nuclear contracts between Brazil and Federal Germany. The reaction of the Foreign Ministry is prudent but reflects serious concern. The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, on its part, insisted that the country would honor its commitments but information coming from German parliamentary specialists are much more dubious about its ability to counter the American pressure.

Brazil would strive through every means at its disposal to confirm its right to nuclear development, the doubts refer to the Brazilian attitude in the case of pressures to sign the NPT and to the ability of the Federal republic of Germany to negotiate with the United States.

The problems in the nuclear field also concern the participating German companies and the level of the technology involved.

It is important to stress the consequences that may ensue. If the impact of the forthcoming increase in the price of oil is added to the difficulties in the nuclear field, the hydroelectric programs, and in particular Itaipu, could bring about favorable arguments as an available alternative.

(Signed) Juan Manuel Figuerero

Ambassador
President

Coordinating Commission for Scientific and Technical Affairs