

**May 16, 1968**

**Telegram from the Consul of the US in Sao Paulo to  
the Department of State, 'Brazilian Centrifuge  
Program'**

**Citation:**

"Telegram from the Consul of the US in Sao Paulo to the Department of State, 'Brazilian Centrifuge Program'", May 16, 1968, Wilson Center Digital Archive, RG 59, Subject-Numeric Files 1967-1969. Box 1169, Inco-Uranium Brazil  
<https://wilson-center.drivingcreative.com/document/145012>

**Summary:**

Information about the classified Brazilian centrifuge program.

**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan



*Inco - Uranium - Brazil*  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

*MR AE 11 Brazil*

*48*

SECRET 519

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45  
ACTION SS 70

INFO /070 W

P 161430Z MAY 68  
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 735  
INFO AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

SECRET SAO PAULO 1706

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN CENTRIFUGE PROGRAM

1. DURING VISIT INSTITUTO PESQUISAS TECNOLOGICAS MAY 16  
SCIATT OBTAINED FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON BRAZILIAN CENTRIFUGE  
PROGRAM:

A. THREE BRAZILIAN CENTRIFUGES ARE LOCATED  
AT IPT AND HAVE  
RPTHAVE BEEN USED TO PRODUCE RESEARCH QUANTITIES URANIUM  
ENRICHED TO AT LEAST ONE PERCENT.

B. BRAZILIAN CENTRIFUGE PROGRAM IS QUOTE CLASSIFIED  
UNQUOTE IN BRAZIL AND IS CONSIDERED SECRET PROGRAM WITH  
NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS. THIS STATUS WAS REPORTEDLY  
ACCORDED PROGRAM SHORTLY AFTER BRAZILIANS LEARNED ORIGINAL  
US-DUTCH-GERMAN CLASSIFICATION CENTRIFUGE WORK.

2. CENTRIFUGES HAVE BEEN MODIFIED ONCE AND ARE NOW UNDER-  
GOING FURTHER MODIFICATIONS. DETAILS WITHHELD FROM SCIATT DURING  
VISIT BUT LAYOUT EQUIPMENT AND NATURE OF WORK VISIBLE WOULD  
SEEM INDICATE CURRENT MODIFICATIONS CONCENTRATING ON  
BEARINGS. IN ADJOINING LABORATORY NOTED EVIDENCE WORK HAD BEEN  
IN PROGRESS USING FIBRE GLASS.

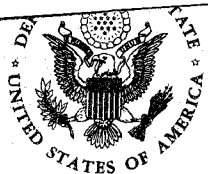
3. IPT CURRENTLY HAS AT LEAST FOUR TECHNICIANS, TWO CHEMICAL  
ENGINEERS, AND ONE MECHANICAL ENGINEER WORKING ON PROJECT.

SECRET

*Sao Paulo 1706  
5/16/68*

RECORDED BY 82/8

(2)



*Department of State*

**TELEGRAM**

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4. IPT SCHEDULE BEGIN SHORTLY PROJECT DESIGN STUDY FOR CASCADE TO BE BUILT IN LOCATION NOT YET SELECTED. VICE DIRECTOR INSTITUTO INDICATED THEY HAD RECOMMENDED BELO HORIZONTE AS SITE.

5. IPT CLAIMS HAVE CAPABILITY BUILD ADDITIONAL MODIFIED MACHINES ON SITE WITH ALL BRAZILIAN PARTS. BOND

SECRET

L I M D I S  
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET

Screeners ASD

OST Sao Paulo  
SERIAL 1706

(Time Received)  
1968 MAY 16 PM 4 43

DISTRIBUTION

MONTHLY COUNT 384

Secretariat

S/S-S 1  
S/S-O 1  
S/S-Screener 33  
S/S-EX  
S/S-CMS  
S/S-O DIR  
MilRep  
Summary  
Task Force

Geographic

AF5  
ARA9 X9  
EA11  
EUR9  
NEA7

Other

ACDA5  
AID/EXSEC3  
AA/AFR2  
AA/VN2  
AA/EA2  
AA/NESA2

Functional

CU  
E2  
H  
IGA  
INR6 16  
IO4  
L 2  
O3  
OPR  
OC  
SY  
WLG  
P2  
SCA  
SCS  
SCI 1

PC

VP

AEC3  
AGR3  
COM2  
EXIM  
FRB  
LAB  
NASA  
NIC  
STR  
TRANS  
TRSY6  
JUS  
IRS  
INT  
BOB  
FBI  
CEA  
FAA

Principals

ES2 12  
S  
U  
M2  
G  
SIG  
S/AH3  
S/AL  
S/C  
S/CPR  
S/GOV  
S/IL  
S/P  
S/R  
S/FW  
S/PM  
M/WP  
G/PM  
G/DP

OTHER AGENCIES

WH10 10  
CIA 1  
DOD 1  
USIA4  
NSA

File  
Burned